

to qualify for a National Housing Act mortgage with which to buy or build a home. We all know that a person earning \$6,000 a year cannot qualify for a full NHA mortgage. In effect, the vast majority of Newfoundlanders, and no doubt people in a similar position in other "have not" provinces, are left to their own resources.

These are the people who in a great many instances are condemned to raising their families in substandard conditions and substandard homes. Our housing policy at the moment is simply: share the wealth among the wealthy. In my opinion this is wrong.

The government's anti-inflationary measures are having a ruinous effect on the "have not" provinces, especially Newfoundland. While inflation is present to an alarming extent in such provinces as Ontario, in my province it is a foreign world.

● (9:00 p.m.)

The "have-not" provinces should not be forced to stall their development because of the prosperity of central Canada. I think someone once said that if one member of the family is sick, the other members should not be forced to take the same medicine.

In conclusion, I should like to enumerate certain facts about this government that is threatening Newfoundland's confidence in confederation. Since the government assumed office and introduced the just society and the end of regional disparity, we have seen the cancellation of the winter works program, the removal of the freeze on freight rates in the Atlantic provinces, the discontinuance of the salt rebate to our fishermen and the abandonment of our rail passenger service. With friends like this in Ottawa, Mr. Speaker, we do not need enemies. The government should assume the development of the Atlantic region not as a responsibility to be undertaken some day; it should regard the removal of embarrassing inequalities as an existing and great challenge within the mandate that this country has given it.

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabaska): Mr. Speaker, I also wish to congratulate the two hon. members who moved and seconded the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. I appreciate in particular the remarks of the mover. The only thing that concerns me is that he has not followed his own advice. I have not seen him in the house since he urged all other members to attend regularly. I also want to congratulate the new ministers on their appointments. I wish them every

The Address—Mr. Yewchuk

success. I would also take the opportunity of congratulating those defeated Liberal candidates on their appointments to other government positions. Since the adjournment in July I have thought particularly of one from my own home town, a deserving man who put a lot of effort into the cause and has been justly rewarded.

My remarks tonight will be about pollution, that particular kind of pollution that is muddying the minds of the youth of this country.

An hon. Member: You mean political pollution.

Mr. Yewchuk: Political pollution is right. I refer to the pollution of the mind by the use of drugs. Nothing specific was mentioned in the Speech from the Throne about this particular topic, but I think it is one of great importance at a time when a vast number of people are promoting the use of drugs such as marijuana, or "pot", Speed, hash and the rest. There has been an extremely active move afoot to convince young people that these are harmless drugs, that the non-medical use of these drugs only improves their minds and is not as harmful as tobacco or alcohol, which most of us enjoy from time to time. I have heard those who promote the use of marijuana say to adults, "You drink your booze and we'll smoke our pot. Why should you have your pleasure and deny us ours when we think ours is less harmful?"

I have with me tonight a little pamphlet that I obtained from the Committee to Legalize Marijuana. This proposition almost seems credible at first glance. According to this pamphlet the research that is outlined in the appendix has shown that the use of marijuana is not addictive; it does not lead to mental or physical deterioration or alter the basic personality structure; neither does it develop an acquired tolerance. The pamphlet does go on to say, however, that its use may result in minor psychological dependency; that it may result in reduced social productivity.

On the other hand, let me cite the statement made by the Alberta Medical Association that short-term or intermittent use of marijuana is unpredictable in effect. They say there have been many documented reactions, including depression, panic reaction, hallucinations and psychotic episodes of anti-motivational syndrome. A report of the John Howard Society indicates there is some evidence that its continued use for a long period of time can lead to lethargy, self-neglect and