

The Address—Mr. Brisco

witnesses of the most important events in our history. Nothing must be omitted, Mr. Speaker, that could favour the promotion of these historic sites so that they might be better known by all Canadians. If we sometimes try to instill pride into the hearts of our young Canadians, they need only visit my area and they will easily find this kind of motivation.

Besides, this area has a most interesting geographical aspect. And this is why integrated touristic development of the shores of the Richelieu is required so that we might keep, near to Montreal, all the green spaces required for the leisures of a population who is too often tempted to go to the United States or elsewhere, while, right on their doorstep, all of nature's beauties are available for their enjoyment and this, without costing fantastic sums of money. To achieve this, Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Canadian government to consider the possibility of reaching a supplementary agreement with the government of Quebec so as to see to it that the recommendations of the PLURAM study may take effect.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would once more like to tell hon. members how proud I am to represent an area like mine, whose population is most dynamic. It will always be an honour and a challenge for me to be worthy of my task of representing the riding of Chambly.

● (1750)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member has graciously completed his remarks in somewhat under 20 minutes. Perhaps we could call it six o'clock and resume at eight o'clock with the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Brisco).

It being six o'clock I do now leave the chair until eight o'clock this day.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

Mr. Bob Brisco (Kootenay West): Madam Speaker, in making my maiden speech in parliament I think my feelings at this moment, and the feelings of many other members who in the past rose to their feet for the first time, might best be described by verse 25, chapter 3 of the Book of Job which reads:

For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

First, I should like to join the host of other members who have voiced their sincere congratulations on your appointment. We realize that the appointment carries considerable responsibility, a responsibility which I believe will be exercised both with fairness and dispatch.

With reference to the Speaker and his appointment, his seeming reluctance to approach the Speaker's chair is, of course, steeped in tradition and history. I think all members of this House can offer the assurance that the Speak-

[Mr. Loisel (Chambly).]

er's person will remain intact throughout this thirtieth parliament.

I should also like to congratulate the hon. member for Montmorency (Mr. Duclos) not only for moving the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne but for the honour which he has brought to his family and his constituents.

All hon. members, and those from British Columbia particularly, share with pride the honour conferred upon the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Lee) who seconded the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne. I believe the hon. member is the second member of parliament of Canadian Chinese descent to be elected and he must, I suspect, be at once proud and humbled by the experience.

As you are aware, Madam Speaker, I represent the riding of Kootenay West in British Columbia and in describing its beauty, its attributes and its people, I can best summarize by describing my private philosophy in the recent election campaign. It was really quite simple—if I win, I win, and I shall have the opportunity to represent a wonderful group of Canadians, my constituents, and the opportunity to work with them and for them. If I lose, then I still win, for I will have much more time and greater opportunity to enjoy the beauty of my riding and the fellowship of its people.

Kootenay West riding is bordered at the south by the 49th parallel, to the east by the Purcell Mountains, to the west by the Cascades and the Monashee Mountains, and its northern extremity lies just south of Revelstoke and the Rogers Pass highway.

It is a riding of beautiful mountains and lakes, rivers and streams, some of whose names will have a sad but familiar ring in this House. I refer of course to the Columbia and the Kootenay Rivers, to the Arrow and Kootenay Lakes. The economic base of Kootenay West is its natural resources of water, minerals and timber, as well as the highly productive agricultural area surrounding the city of Creston. Some of our communities have names that ring loudly in the early history of mining in British Columbia. I refer to such places as Rossland, Trail, Nelson, New Denver and Silverton, Salmo and Ymir, Kaslo and Lardeau and the ghost town of Sandon.

Some names reflect the influence of our native peoples, such as Kootenay, the name of the riding, and Monashee, a mountain range. Still other names are a mirror of earlier times when the Russian people referred to as the Doukhobors moved into Kootenay West—names such as Poupore and Ootischenia.

Kootenay West and its communities have contributed much to the social and economic wealth of Canada. While many of its constituents are of Anglo Saxon descent, we have a large and valued representation from ethnic groups of Italian, Russian and Japanese descent. All of them contribute a great deal to the social betterment of our riding.

Kootenay West has produced such champions as Nancy Greene from Rossland, and the Trail Smokeaters, twice world hockey champions. Trail, I might add, was the founding city for the organized movement of boys' minor