

money. Unless we are able to continue to provide the facilities, the tourist industry will greatly suffer.

In conclusion, I should like to urge that the province of Ontario be given its due consideration and attention in the area of small craft harbours. When the government comes up with a bill which reflects adequately the needs of Ontario, then I will be prepared to support it.

Once again, I wish to congratulate the hon. member for Niagara Falls. I should like to refer to an article which he wrote that appeared in the Canadian Yachting Magazine. It was entitled "The Marina Crunch". It outlined the plight of recreational boating facilities in Ontario. He referred to some very, very excellent statistics, which I am sure are correct. In part that article reads as follows:

—Ontario has 25 per cent of all the freshwater in Canada, several thousand miles of shoreline and approximately 53 per cent of all the small craft in Canada. The bulk of the population of North America lives either in or within easy driving or boating distance making our waterways very heavily utilized. Consider as well that recent studies have projected rates of growth in boating in the Toronto area at 8.7 per cent per year compounded annually and rates of growth in Ontario over-all at 12 per cent compounded annually. By 1980, there will be nearly two million small craft in Ontario alone, and forecasts for the Toronto area show a need to multiply present facilities five to six times by 1990.

Thus, Toronto and Lake Ontario will be bulging at the seams. As I was flying from Toronto today, I met the Metro chairman, Mr. Paul Godfrey, and I said I would put in a plug for Toronto to see if we could get more recreational facilities for that great tourist city, as well as the areas east and west of it. Let me present another statistic certainly worthy of mention that was contained in this report:

● (2022)

In 1974, Canadians spent 3.6 billion dollars on recreational or leisure goods and about ten per cent of this was for sailboats, boats and motors. Dealers indicate sales of 140,000 boats in Ontario in this same year. With residents taking up water sport activities at an ever increasing rate, with spending on leisure goods increasing 21 per cent faster than total income and 58 per cent faster than spending on all other consumer goods, the marina crunch problem is not going to go away—

The money the Minister of National Revenue (Mr. Guay) receives in excise taxes through the sale of boats and motors runs into millions and millions of dollars.

I had the privilege this year of spending a day at the boat show looking at the various types of boats, from the smallest canoe to boats valued up to \$150,000. They were really something to see, as well as were the huge crowds taking an interest in boating. With the energy crisis sailboats seem to be moving ahead and will begin to be more popular.

Again I am hoping the minister will give serious consideration to making sure more money is ploughed into the province of Ontario for recreational harbour facilities. Out of the \$230 million the most Ontario can expect to get in 1977-78 is \$4 million, and that is just peanuts, with all due respect to the minister, when you consider the thousands of miles of shoreline with the Great Lakes and the many other lakes of this province, and the greatest tourist industry in the entire dominion of Canada.

### *Fishing and Recreational Harbours*

I was pleased to hear from the office of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang) this evening that under FLIP, the federal labour-intensive program, there has been allocated an expenditure of \$300,000 for upgrading the coast guard base in the town of Parry Sound. I understand this will provide 240 man-months of work. Let me add that the entire coast guard facilities there are so old fashioned, or just old, they should be reconstructed entirely, but at least this is a step in the right direction.

Again with a total budget of \$230 million hon. members will agree that more should be directed toward this tourist industry which is the second largest in all of Canada, one we should consider very seriously. It is an industry that must be cultivated. The way things have been going lately a great many Canadians are certainly not helping out by heading south, though I admit that the weather we have been facing recently is not the most conducive to keeping Canadians in Canada, especially in January and February. However, when the weather improves and the boating season starts again I certainly hope a great many of our Canadian and American tourists will see fit to come to Ontario, which has the greatest tourist area of all.

The town of Parry Sound is a port used by ocean-going vessels. In August 1976 I had the privilege of attending a regatta or a weekend gathering there of the Great Lakes Cruising Club from Michigan. Most of the participants were from the United States. There was over \$3 million in boats tied up in the harbour at Parry Sound. The harbour was taxed to its capacity and the floating docks were not of the best. I suggest the facilities should be expanded greatly, particularly when I see how much money this brings into the area.

As the hon. member of parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka, I think primarily of my own riding but the same arguments apply to the riding of Niagara Falls and to all other ridings which border the Great Lakes, as well as the many ridings which have inland lake frontage. The tourist industry is very important and, therefore, money spent on facilities, harbours, launching ramps and so on by the minister's department represents money well spent. I suggest to the minister that if he casts his bread upon the waters he will bring in so much money that Treasury Board will probably give him more for 1978-79.

**Mr. Young:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the hon. member would permit a question.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** That can be done only with the consent of the hon. member.

**Mr. Young:** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was kind enough to quote some of my remarks made in a speech and in an article I wrote. I wonder if he would now commit himself by saying he has seen the wisdom of the minister's bill, he is willing to join him in support of the measure, and he will help him in getting this bill passed?

**Mr. Darling:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member was not here at the time I told the minister his bill contains a lot of