

people to fulfil themselves and to raise their family in decent surroundings.

The setting up of a special secretariat entrusted to a minister without portfolio responsible for urban affairs and housing, will enable us to break new ground.

The increasing student population has also found another solution during the summer of 1970 by setting up a co-ordination bureau for summer employment applications and opportunities. Staffed by students, it has permitted a much more successful contact with those in need.

At the end of September, a public transportation project was announced for the island of Montreal, including an extension of the subway. This is undoubtedly an urgent necessity which should be met by the proposed department of municipal affairs should do it.

But I must here, Mr. Speaker, underline another feature of our society which gives rise to great problems. I mentioned the Back River which delineates the natural borders of my constituency. I cannot go on without mentioning factors which contributed to the pollution of that waterway. The urban community has already announced a major development to be implemented over a five-year period.

By setting up a department of the environment which would be responsible for the management of natural resources and which should consider introducing legislation on pollution of environment, waters and atmosphere, we would have the proper agency to deal with problems created by that river flowing through several Greater Montreal constituencies. I hope these issues will be given special priority without unduly glossing over yesterday's excuses, namely jurisdictional conflicts.

The textile industry must be given special attention. That is an area of industry which particularly affects a great number of persons who are now employed there.

The White Paper in social security, Mr. Speaker, will certainly spur further exchanges with the people so that legislation can be implemented in order to bring about concrete solutions.

These revamped social measures will enable all our fellow-citizens to forge ahead, giving better treatment to a great many and promoting the national unity which we all desire.

There is a solution to every problem.

The enactment of the pieces of legislation proposed in the Speech from the Throne will establish an atmosphere of peace and social progress, and will enhance the dignity of man by giving him full freedom, by allowing him to live new and gratifying human experiences, while taking into account the Canadian heritage in the North American context.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Assiniboia (Mr. Douglas):

That an Address the text of which follows, be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Hon. Roland Michener, Chancellor and Principal Companion of the Order of Canada, upon whom has been conferred the Canadian Forces' Decoration, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

May it please Your Excellency: We, Her Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the House of Commons of Canada, in

### *The Address—Mr. A. B. Douglas*

Parliament assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Excellency for the gracious speech which Your Excellency has addressed to both Houses of Parliament.

• (2:10 p.m.)

[English]

**Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, it is a great honour to be selected to second the motion for the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the third session of Canada's twenty-eighth parliament. I am particularly pleased because the motion for the address has just been moved by the hon. member for Bourassa (Mr. Trudel), who is one of the most capable, likeable, respected and fluently bilingual members of this House.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Assiniboia):** I have a great admiration for people who speak more than one language, and indeed I have a certain amount of envy of them. Although I have taken some French lessons I will not try to demonstrate the results of that effort here today.

As has often been said before in like circumstances, the honour that has been given to me today by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), and the government, is far from being mine alone. It is mainly a tribute to the constituency I represent, recognition of the importance of the great Canadian prairies, and an acknowledgement of the eminent position our area holds in the minds and hearts of our Prime Minister and his government, and indeed in the thoughts of Canadians everywhere.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, you will permit me to follow the usual custom of placing on the record a few remarks about the constituency of Assiniboia which it is my privilege to represent. It is one of those ridings which increased in size in the latest revision of electoral district boundaries. It is some 180 miles from east to west, and from 90 to 96 miles north to south. There are three constituencies in southern Saskatchewan bordering on the United States, and Assiniboia is the central one.

The southern boundary of Assiniboia constituency is the famous forty-ninth parallel, which forms the international line between the Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the United States. With the exception of some ridings along the Great Lakes and the constituency of Yukon, the Assiniboia constituency has more miles of international boundary, 180, than any other federal electoral district. We have a close and cordial relationship with the residents of North Dakota and Montana, and I believe that the overwhelming majority of our residents would reject the doctrine of socialism—pardon me, of isolationism.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

• (2:20 p.m.)

**Mr. Douglas (Assiniboia):** Mr. Speaker, most of us are extremely thankful that we have such a strong and friendly neighbour, and we are happy that we still have this long, undefended boundary which is unmatched any-