

*The Address—Mr. Jorgenson*

### FISHERIES

#### NEWFOUNDLAND—REQUEST FOR ACTION TO AID COD FISHERMEN

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twilligate):** I should like to ask the Prime Minister whether the government is going to take any action to relieve the distress caused by the failure of the cod fishery in Newfoundland, about which he will recall I wrote him last October, and which he advised me the Minister of Labour and the Minister of Fisheries were looking into urgently?

**Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, the answer is still applicable.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I wonder if I might ask a supplementary question. Does the Prime Minister realize that half the fishermen on the northeast coast of Newfoundland have been forced on relief because of the failure of the government to act?

### INDUSTRY

#### SPRINGHILL, N.S.—INQUIRY AS TO PLANS FOR REHABILITATION

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Bonavista-Twilligate):** If I may I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Revenue as the representative of Nova Scotia in the government. Has the government in mind any plans to meet the distressing situation in Springhill, which plans I would assume would be related to the government's general policy for the decentralization of industry.

**Hon. George C. Nowlan (Minister of National Revenue):** Any decision which is taken by the government in that regard will, of course, be announced in due course and at the proper time. As the house well knows, the Nova Scotia government set up a special corporation with capital of \$1 million to assist in the attraction of industries to Springhill, and discussions have been going on between myself as Minister of National Revenue and officers of the different corporations as to what way my department or this government could co-operate in their establishment. I am hopeful that some action will be agreed upon in the near future with respect to some of the industries.

### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. W. H. JORGENSEN AND SECONDED BY MR. LOUIS FORTIN

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor General at the opening of the session.

[Mr. Harkness.]

**Mr. W. H. Jorgenson (Provencher):** Mr. Speaker, on this occasion I am indeed indebted to the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) for the honour he has given my native province of Manitoba and the recognition he has shown to the constituency of Provencher in allowing me to move the address in reply to the speech from the throne that His Excellency the Governor General so graciously read to us yesterday.

In selecting Provencher for this singular honour the Prime Minister has chosen a constituency that is truly representative of a cross-section of our Canadian population, from the Anglo-Saxon and French pioneers who first settled the district along the banks of the Red river; the Mennonites who began settlement in the Steinbach and Altona districts in 1873; and the Ukrainians who established their first rural area in the Stuartburn district in 1896. The story of their gradual assimilation into the Canadian way of life was embodied in the words of Lord Tweedsmuir to the Ukrainian community of Fraserwood in 1936, when he said:

I do not believe that any people can be strong unless they remember and keep in touch with all their past . . . You will all be better Canadians for being good Ukrainians.

Theirs is a story of incredible hardship and disappointment. The difficulties they encountered in adjusting to machinery, to business life, to democratic processes, even to new clothing, different food and a new language, provide us with our most interesting chapters of history in the development of this part of Manitoba. The Prime Minister has had occasion to visit the thriving district of Steinbach and to see at first hand the results of private initiative and industry. Here is one of the finest examples of what Canadians have done to build their own communities into progressive towns without the aid of government or the benefit of large industries moving in.

Over in Altona the same progressive spirit prevails but the same results have been achieved through co-operation rather than individual enterprise. Following the construction of the co-operative vegetable oil plant in 1946 and investment of \$160,000 has grown into an investment of over \$1 million. Although only about 50 people are employed here, this industry has had a tremendous effect upon the development of the town and the local agricultural economy. Annual payments to farmers for sunflower seed, soya beans, rapeseed and flax, exceed \$1.3 million and half a million dollars annually is funnelled into the town's business enterprises through its operations.

I might add that approximately 70 per cent of Manitoba's sugar beet crop is grown in this area, a fact which is further evidence