

*The Address—Mr. Martin*

guage in future will be available only to a small, privileged class whose numbers will steadily decrease in the years ahead.

We must somehow move beyond the early, adolescent stage at which our country has arrived. We must cease to be referred to, and refer to ourselves, as hyphenated Canadians. A Canadian is a Canadian. In my view, that must be the byword for our future. We may, indeed, be Canadians whose mother tongue is one of the two official languages, be it English or French, or we may be Canadians of one of the many unofficial mother tongues. These are prevalent languages which are frequently heard across this country, many of them in my own community and in my own riding. These people came to live in Canada and to adopt it as their home. Their immediate roots are in other areas of the world.

If we continue to fail to understand one another adequately, we will be unable to keep this great country together. I think the problems we have faced and are now facing in Quebec will tend to rear themselves in other areas over the course of the years. We must tackle them in a positive way. It is unacceptable that we should wait for yet another separatist government to be elected somewhere else in the country, before doing something. We must take some responsibility for ensuring that our children receive a form of education which will include a far greater exposure to both official languages and cultures than has been the practice in the past.

Without proper education in these areas—and it has been woefully inadequate over the last century—there will be no real development in bridging what I refer to as the understanding gap in years to come. There will be no significant closure of that gap, and without that closure I again say it is doubtful if Canada will be able to endure in any meaningful way over the long term. Constitutional conferences, patriation and amendment of the British North America Act—perhaps these things are important, but most important is the development of a substantially increased degree of understanding among Canadians. This is something which does not have any replacement, and that factor cannot be overlooked.

A great deal is being said about national unity and national understanding. As members of parliament, I think we will be drawn into this debate more and more. We have a responsibility to talk about it in our ridings, to encourage citizens to talk about it, and to do all we can to encourage the intermovement of people between the areas of concern and the areas in which they live. If we come from an area which does not seem to be concerned about the issue, we must put the matter on the table and seek together, as Canadians, ways in which to develop solutions which will be acceptable. I am sure that with a proper, mature outlook we will be able to develop solutions which will be acceptable, if not to all Canadians, at least to the majority in each region of this great country.

In my opening remarks I mentioned that I wanted to make a few comments on the energy situation. I choose to do so at this time because it seems to me this is an extremely complex matter. Many Canadians still feel that they are completely uninformed. Therefore, I would like to put on the record a few facts which I think are important. World demand for energy

by the year 1990—13 hears hence—expressed in equivalent barrels of oil, will be roughly 160 million barrels per day, compared with 85 million barrels today. This figure is roughly double. Our situation is really no different and the increase has substantially reduced from that forecast in the early part of the 1970s. The forecast includes the assumption that conservation programs will be meaningful throughout the world, particularly in Europe and North America where there is a massive use of energy.

We do not know what the price of oil will be by 1990. A very informed source mentioned the other day, in conversation, that in his view the price could go to \$25 a barrel. That is probably on the high side. On the other hand, we must understand that every time we spend a dollar on imported oil, that contributes to our balance of payment problem. I think the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Clark) was somewhat irresponsible in his comments yesterday relating to the economy. In my view, he was definitely irresponsible in his comments on the energy situation when he said in his opening remarks: "This means no net imports of oil or of any other major fuel". I believe he was referring at some point earlier to the year 1985. That may be an ultimate goal. If it is an ultimate goal, I suppose it could be realistic, but it certainly is not realistic if he was referring to 1985 or 1990.

**Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton):** He didn't say that.

**Mr. Martin:** Canadians will be faced with increasingly heavy imports and an increasingly high bill, and the analyses I have seen by the most prestigious authors indicate no real impact by solar, wind, biomass, geothermal or other sources of energy by the year 2000.

Nuclear energy will be coming in in a bigger way, along with all the problems associated with it; but we must accept that this is probably an alternative which will be unavoidable. More and more, Canadians must address themselves to energy problems. They must discuss them in the way I hope they will discuss, more and more, our problems of national understanding and the economy. The energy situation cannot be segregated from any one of these problems. It has an increasingly high profile and it must occupy that position in the minds of thinking people in this country.

I shall conclude my comments which have dealt with those three areas. I have dealt with the state of the economy, the concern I have about the lack of adequate understanding among the various regions and peoples of this country, and the need for us, as a federal government, to attack those problems directly. That means doing something to encourage the provinces more and more in the field of education. We do not have rights in that field, but we certainly must have some kind of persuasive power. We are elected representatives, too. I have dealt with the energy situation. I solicit more and more concern and attention on the part of the government and Canadians to this increasingly significant problem, which will be very serious within the next 15 to 20 years.