

this eastern Canadian province a keystone in the distribution picture. With more than 2,000,000 people in the Atlantic provinces now, New Brunswick would seem to be a logical centre from which this expanding market could best be served. With many drastic changes taking place in world trading patterns it is possible that, situated on the Atlantic seaboard with the harbour of Saint John open to year-round navigation, New Brunswick may well be recognized as the threshold of North America, the natural place from and through which distribution and exchange should be made, both across the Atlantic and towards the west. Thus, New Brunswick may again assume the position of a leader in world trade which she held a century ago.

Reference to the changing pattern of world trade again brings to mind the European Common Market, interest in which at the A.P.E.C. meetings vied with interest in the Atlantic Provinces Development Board. Speeches and panels were devoted to the Common Market and dealt with the effect it will have on the Atlantic economy if Britain joins the E.C.M. Opinion was divided on the subject, almost all agreeing that some difficulty would arise during the necessary period of adjustment, but many believing that in the long run it would help the Atlantic economy.

The Mount Allison University seminar, which is held at Sackville, New Brunswick each year, studies matters of current interest. The seminar gets wide publicity through TV, radio, and press in the Atlantic provinces and even beyond, and this summer the seminar was devoted to the study of the Common Market. Certainly, in our province, we are not ignorant or illiterate concerning this subject.

Honourable senators, other legislation mentioned in the Speech from the Throne excited my interest and I hope I shall be able to contribute to the debates on the bills when they come before this house. I await eagerly the introduction of the measure to establish an Indian Claims Commission.

From my experience on the recent Parliamentary Joint Committee on Indian Affairs, I believe there are many claims on the part of various tribes and bands that should be thoroughly investigated and fairly settled. I am exceedingly interested in a national system of contributory old age pensions with disability and survival benefits, and the possibility—with the co-operation of the provinces—of legislation to implement portable pensions. The establishment of a National Council of Welfare will provide co-

ordination between federal and provincial governments in this field, which is very badly needed.

In welfare, honourable senators, my chief interest is in making provision for our older citizens. As I explained in a speech to this house on February 8, 1955, I am interested in the subject generally, whether it has to do with housing, employment, income, health or free time of our older citizens.

At present, through its Committee on Aging, the Canadian Welfare Council is doing a Canada-wide survey to determine just what are the needs of Canada's older citizens in the field of housing. Proper housing is, I think, the most urgent problem of older people in Canada, but there are many other problems that require attention and legislation to establish a program that will ensure independence, dignity and respect to all citizens through their later years. It is my hope that before long a National Conference on aging—similar to the White House Conference on Aging which was held in Washington in January, 1961 and attended by a number of Canadians, as observers—may be held in Canada. Possibly such a conference might be recommended and given support by a national council on welfare which was mentioned in the Speech from the Throne.

I thank you, honourable senators, for your kind attention.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Willis, debate adjourned.

OFFICIAL REPORT

CORRECTION OF STATEMENT

Hon. W. Ross Macdonald: Honourable senators, on a question of privilege: After listening to the honourable senator from Fredericton (Hon. Mrs. Fergusson), and in order to prove that there is no narrow political bias on this side of the house, I feel constrained to request that a correction be made in *Hansard*.

Honourable senators may recall that yesterday at the close of the debate on the Export Credits Insurance Act I made a few remarks. It appears, from reading page 127 of *Hansard*, that I said at the beginning of those remarks:

Honourable senators, I think we all agree that the bill has been very well explained to the Senate by the honourable gentleman who has just spoken (Hon. Mr. Hugessen).

Of course that was true, but what I actually said was also true. This is what I said:

Honourable senators, I think we all agree that the bill has been very well