

of Halifax will certainly be a partner. Here is a golden opportunity to combine desirable industrial development with the provision of alternative housing for the residents of Africville. The federal government has made provision for dealing with such situations by providing 50 per cent of the cost of acquiring and clearing the land, 75 per cent of the cost of new housing construction, and an equivalent share of operating costs if there should be a deficit.

Now that the province of Nova Scotia has stated its intention to participate in housing developments, it should be easier for the city to proceed with a much needed project for better housing for the residents of that section on Bedford basin known as Africville. For many years the welfare agencies have tried to interest public and private groups in such a project, not only in the name of humanity but in the interests of good business. These are fine people living on the Bedford shore, and not only should be but must be assisted substantially in a rehabilitation program.

Before leaving the matter of port development I want to re-emphasize the need for immediate improvement in the over-all railway facilities—trackage for marshalling of cars and storage and availability of rolling stock. I should also speak again of the need for additional hotel accommodation, and I urge the Canadian National Railways to proceed with an addition to the Nova Scotian hotel. The high occupancy rate of hotels in Halifax and the demand for convention space suggests that the business is there. Further, it is entirely probable that enlargement of the hotel would enhance its profit position by spreading the overhead. In any case, even on its present scale the hotel has just completed a profitable year, and conventions planned to be held in Halifax in 1958 cannot get accommodation.

There are other things in the preliminary report of the royal commission on Canada's economic prospects on which I should like to comment and commend the government for its prompt action. While the Senate investigation of land use may not be a direct result of the commission report, nevertheless the approach reflects similar thinking on the part of the government. In the absence of the discovery of spectacular new resources in the Atlantic provinces, the only way we can expect economic progress there is to make better use of what we have. Federal assistance toward this end represents constructive action.

The first step required is to know what we have. In addition to investigation of land use as outlined, more intensive geological

work on mineral possibilities and better knowledge of our forest resources to promote better utilization would be helpful. These are not just broad generalizations or empty phrases. Just to make them specific and meaningful I can refer to the several thousand acres of land along the Musquodoboit river in Halifax county that could yield so much more if it were properly drained and not subject to floods. We have a forest industry now supporting a ground-wood pulp operation at Sheet Harbour in Halifax county that could yield a lot more wealth to that community with better forest management which could bring a paper mill to this locality. If there is any way in which the federal authority can assist such a project at Sheet Harbour, early action would be appreciated by the people of the eastern shore of Halifax county.

Also of vital concern to Nova Scotia is the controversial question of fishing limits on our coast line. The government has already brought this matter before the United Nations, and it is good to know that a strong case for Canada will be made. I know there will be representations from the Department of Fisheries for the 12-mile fishing limit so we may have fairness in the treatment of fishing trawlers of all nations. The idea of the Minister of Fisheries to stress the fishing limit and not a territorial limit is smart and practical.

We must also be concerned with conservation aspects of this matter. While conservation and the 12-mile limit are of immediate interest to the inshore fisheries, they are also of equal importance in the long run to the fisheries industry generally. Many communities on St. Margaret's bay and along the eastern shore of Halifax county depend for their livelihood on the inshore fisheries, and this industry accounts for an estimated 20 per cent of Halifax city's economy.

It was a great satisfaction to me, as to many others in the house, to vote for the passage of the legislation authorizing the payment of full municipal taxation on federal property. The importance of this to my own constituency is indicated in the amounts which the federal government will pay in lieu of taxation, probably \$1 million or more to Halifax city, \$100,000 to the town of Dartmouth and over \$70,000 to Halifax county.

This liberalization of policy in respect of federal property comes at a particularly opportune time for the local governments concerned. There is always great pressure on governments at all levels to find the money with which to pay for the services demanded.