

*Oral Questions***CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION****INTENTION RESPECTING AGREEMENTS TO ASSIST CAPE BRETON MUNICIPALITIES**

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the new Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. I trust he will show his usual energetic enthusiasm in this field during the short period of time he will be here. May I ask the hon. gentleman whether it is the intention of the Cape Breton Development Corporation to enter into agreements to render assistance, both financial and otherwise, to municipalities on Cape Breton Island similar to the assistance provided in other parts of the country through DREE? Here, I refer to that overworked word "infrastructure".

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): I would have to ask the president of Devco where he has any plans in that connection. I will be glad to do so and convey the information to the hon. member.

Mr. Muir: In view of the fact the president of the Cape Breton Development Corporation has already stated that he has no part in this, and in view of the fact the former minister responsible for Devco stated that the legislation is indeed flexible enough to encompass anything DREE might do, would the minister give serious attention to this question?

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have already indicated we are examining the various implications of the DREE program but if this is one which commends itself to the hon. member, to the area and to myself, perhaps we could work something out.

Mr. Donald MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Would the minister mind answering the note I sent over to him at the beginning of the question period?

Mr. Jamieson: Could I see you as soon as possible? Of course. Any time you wish.

Mr. MacInnis (Cape Breton-East Richmond): Is the hon. gentleman not aware that ministers are not allowed to ask questions of backbenchers?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Orders of the day.

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BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Baldwin: Would the government House leader mind my asking at this time what is to be the course of business next week?

Mr. MacEachen: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am happy to advise the House that we shall continue with the debate on the address.

Mr. Bell: May I address a supplementary question to the Prime Minister in the interest of getting things done? May we be assured that the roster system has now been finally

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

scrapped? If not, we want our copy so we may know when the ministers are going to be here.

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[*Translation*]

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

ADDRESS IN REPLY, MOVED BY MR. J. J. BLAIS AND
SECONDED BY MR. ROD BLAKER

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

Mr. J. J. Blais (Nipissing): Mr. Speaker, I have been told that I did not have to speak too loud this morning because the interpretation facilities are available. However, I would like to say that I am a young Canadian, at least I think I am, and I have asked myself more than once what led the kind people of Nipissing to send me here to sit in on the proceedings of the House. I am indebted to the right hon. Prime Minister who has confirmed their choice by asking me to move the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne. Such an honour reflects first of all on my constituency and I wish to thank him most sincerely.

I wish also, Mr. Speaker, to congratulate you on your reelection which was a foregone conclusion due to the expertise you have shown in the past and also due to the confidence which your impartiality and good judgement have initiated. I am sure that all Canadians join with me to congratulate you because they have been made aware of your qualifications during discussions in the national media in connection with the appointment of a permanent Speaker.

I would also like to congratulate the new ministers who have no doubt been chosen for a most difficult task. In fact, it will involve not only the administration of government measures initiated by the twenty-eighth parliament but also the adoption of the bills which will be introduced during this session.

Yesterday's Speech from the Throne includes an enormous amount of legislation to be passed and I think the ministers will have to realize the scope of their responsibilities.

[*English*]

I would also pray, Mr. Speaker, that when presenting the Address to His Excellency you convey my personal feelings of affection and loyalty, and, I am sure, those of Canadian citizens wherever they may be. I would also ask Your Honour to convey to him my thanks, even at this belated date, for having so graciously, in the summer of 1965, received my wife, Maureen Ahearn as she then was, in New Delhi, while he was Canadian High Commissioner to India. She assures me that this occasion remains among her most cherished memories.

Canada is indeed blessed in having as head of state, not merely a typical Canadian but, indeed, an ideal Canadian. In an age in which human imperfection is constantly brought to our attention by the retelling in the press of stories in which intolerance, jealousy, hatred, violence and man's inhumanity to man are the principle actors, the