

*The Address—Mr. Higgins*

**Mr. Howe:** Is there anything wrong with that?

**Mr. Green:** If we have surplus oil that is quite all right, but as a matter of national policy the main pipe line carrying Canadian oil should be laid in Canadian soil.

**Mr. Howe:** It is a good thing the United States does not take that view.

**Mr. Green:** The right hon. minister can make his speech in due time, and I hope he will explain the whole subject.

**Mr. Howe:** It will not be as foolish as this one.

**Mr. Green:** That is the usual reply by the minister, to accuse the other person of being a fool. But in a great many instances it has been proved in due course that the fool was on the government side of the house.

This brings up the question of coal. I shall not go into this matter except to say that because of devaluation coal is going to cost more in central Canada. This is the time to develop a national coal policy so that Alberta and Nova Scotia coal may be brought into the markets of Quebec and Ontario to a much greater extent.

The next promising development I should like to refer to is iron. There have been tremendous discoveries of iron in northern Quebec and Labrador. I ask hon. members of this house to make sure that that iron ore is used in Canada to the largest possible degree and not simply shipped to the United States for smelting and then brought back here in the form of finished products. If that ore were made into steel in Cape Breton it might alter the whole picture in the maritimes; certainly that would be a wonderful thing for that part of Canada. If it were smelted in Quebec, where they have vast water power, that would mean a great deal to that province. I repeat: Let us in this house see to it that that iron ore is used to the greatest degree in our own country. It should be our policy to develop all these resources and use them in Canada to the greatest possible extent.

In conclusion let me say that my vision of Canada is that she should be a great nation with a population of fifty or seventy-five million; one of the great nations of the world. I think that is possible. Because of the various changes that are taking place in the world today, and the developments within Canada, this twenty-first parliament will have a great deal to do with the future of the nation. We have a great responsibility, perhaps greater than any other parliament of Canada for many years. If we do our work well, then I believe we can help Canada to attain the destiny I have pictured. I must

say, Mr. Speaker, that looking around the house I believe the members are here with great earnestness of purpose. I think this parliament is going to do a fine job for Canada. I hope that, when the four or five years have expired, during which this parliament will last, the people of Canada will be able to say of us that we have done our work well.

**Mr. G. F. Higgins (St. John's East):** Mr. Speaker, following the eloquence of the hon. members who have spoken today, and the broad scope of their addresses, I feel somewhat diffident in speaking to you tonight on matters chiefly concerning my own province. Nevertheless, as our problems in Newfoundland are now the problems of all of Canada, I feel it only fitting that you should acquire all the knowledge you can of our particular worries and fears.

In speaking on the address I should like to join my colleague, the hon. member for St. John's West (Mr. Browne), in expressing thanks to all those members on both sides of the house with whom I have come in contact for their many courtesies to me and I am sure to all other Newfoundlanders in this house. I wish to offer my congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker, on your elevation to the high position which is now yours.

I should also like to compliment the mover (Mr. Boisvert) and the seconder (Mr. Laing) of the address in reply to the speech from the throne on the real excellence of their addresses. I should like to offer my congratulations to the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) on the results of the election. Whilst the ridings of St. John's West and St. John's East did not follow the other ridings of Newfoundland in supporting the party which he has the honour to lead, nevertheless I can assure him of a very warm welcome when, as I hope he will, he returns to visit us again in Newfoundland. I may add that we are eagerly looking forward to a return visit from the leader of the opposition (Mr. Drew). As you might well expect, he created a most favourable impression on his visit to our province.

I am afraid I must apologize to the leader of the C.C.F. party (Mr. Coldwell) for the somewhat unusual lack of warmth displayed to him on his visit to St. John's; but speaking for my own riding, which was the only riding contested by his party, I should like him to know that there was nothing personal in the lack of warmth, but merely that he had no opportunity to explain properly the doctrines of his party to our people. I can assure him that he will receive a warm welcome when and if, as I hope he will, he decides to come and see us again.