

*The Address—Mr. Coates*

would be announced that was prepared by the former government, the legislation covering which was ready when this government took office. A year later we are still in the same place we were when this government took office. Certainly I wish I could say the farmers of eastern Canada are in the same place, but they are not; they are going backward, and fast, every day this government procrastinates and does all the other things that it does except put this policy into effect.

To give a still greater example of the ineptitude of this government and the disregard it has for the farmers of eastern Canada, I cite a news story in the February 22 edition of the *Halifax Chronicle-Herald*. I note that the government of Nova Scotia has had to pay an extra bonus to provide limestone assistance for the farmers of Nova Scotia, something that is basic to good agriculture in that province. The federal government will not even pay its fair share of the assistance that has been made available to our farmers. This is the type of agricultural policy we see coming forward from this government for the farmers of eastern Canada. In so far as western Canada is concerned, the government gives it Harry Hays and tries to keep him there as much as possible.

I feel there are other things this government could do that would be of real benefit to the Atlantic provinces. Certainly they could endeavour to improve and take greater advantage of the port facilities that are available in the maritime provinces. Today the hon. member for Saint John-Albert did what I considered an excellent job in putting forward recommendations that would be of real benefit to the ports of Saint John and Halifax. I should like to make one further suggestion. It is my understanding that the government is now negotiating with Russia for the sale of large quantities of fertilizer. This sale of fertilizer, combined with the grain sales instituted by the former government, will tax port facilities to the utmost. I feel that because of the necessity for providing greater facilities to cope with the large shipments of grain and fertilizer, a second look should be taken at the port facilities in Halifax and Saint John to see if they cannot be expanded, to see if they cannot be used more efficiently, to see if we cannot obtain a longer shipping season in that part of Canada and thus keep our people employed for a longer period during the year.

I have only a few more remarks to make. I should like to recommend to the government for consideration the project which was prepared by the centenary committee of Amherst. That committee has proposed a civic centre which would include a library and a museum to honour four fathers of confederation all of

whom came from Cumberland county. I think Cumberland county is unique in that it produced four fathers of confederation. I doubt that there is another area in Canada which could say the same. They were: Sir Charles Tupper, father of confederation, premier of Nova Scotia and prime minister of Canada; Robert Dickie, father of confederation and senator; E. B. Chandler, father of confederation, lieutenant governor of New Brunswick, and Jonathan McCully, father of confederation, senator and judge of the supreme court of Nova Scotia.

Cumberland has gone even further than this. It has also produced Hon. A. R. Dickie, minister of justice; Hon. W. T. Pipes, premier of Nova Scotia; Hon. E. N. Rhodes, premier of Nova Scotia, minister of finance in the House of Commons and Speaker of the House of Commons as well as the Senate; Hon. J. Layton Ralston, minister of justice and minister of national defence; Hon. Norman MacLeod Rogers, minister of national defence; Hon. Stewart Jenks, justice of the supreme court of Nova Scotia; Hon. Percy C. Black, minister of highways and leader of the opposition in Nova Scotia; and Hon. John Smiley, justice of the supreme court of Nova Scotia.

Certainly with a list as long and outstanding as the one I have just read it would seem to me that the federal government would be wise to look well at this project which has been prepared by the Amherst centenary committee and give it careful consideration for special action in the way of grants for a memorial to these outstanding Canadians.

I should also like to mention for a moment the work of Father Bauer and the hockey team which we sent to the recent Olympic games. As one who has a passing interest in sport, I believe the job performed by Father Bauer with these young men to be an outstanding one. We finished fourth in the Olympics, but we came very close to winning. We had an amateur team which measures up to Olympic standards. In Canada, when a young man reaches the age of 16, if he has any hockey potential at all, he almost immediately becomes a professional or a semi-professional. It is difficult indeed to secure talented young amateur hockey players. But Father Bauer was able to find them, and while he was at the Olympics he did an outstanding job as a person, as a Canadian and as a hockey coach. We should be proud of him.

I think we in Canada need to place greater emphasis on athletics. I think we need greater training facilities for our Canadian athletes, and I think we should do more about seeing that our young people have proper training facilities so they can go to the Olympics and