

February 8th., 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - (PC)

KINGS NORTH - (Prolonged applause)

In seconding the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, may I say how happy I am to join Honourable Members as a partner in public life, and to accept the responsibilities that go with the holding of a seat in the Nova Scotia Legislature. It is satisfying to know that women join in this partnership, working together "to hold fast to basic principles and values and to exert influence to preserve a democratic way of life." May I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, upon your election. We are sure you will discharge your duties with fairness to all.

Citizens interested in the affairs of their country, naturally think of the future of their children and family. In this health and welfare come to the fore. Your Government has made tremendous progress in the Hospital Insurance field and our Plan is considered by the most experienced hospital personnel to be one of the best. No one will deny we have a very good program in our Province, and that thousands have benefitted greatly from it. We have but to look around us to see the many families hospital insurance has saved from financial disaster. It has indeed provided a great new measure of family security and well-being.

The greatest impact on Nova Scotia hospitals in recent years has been the entry of the Government into the hospital field. As one of our Maritime Hospital Association

February 8th., 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - Continued.

executive members has said - "Economic and Scientific factors have thrust the hospital out of its historic framework and made it a strange organism, motivated like a charity, operated like a business, and regulated like a profession."

Our Hospital personnel are pleased that on January 1st., there came into being a Pension Plan for employees, operated by our Nova Scotia Hospital Association, and accepted by the Hospital Insurance Commission.

In the field of Health, Kings North has in its town of Kentville area the first provincially owned and operated institution of its kind in Canada - The Nova Scotia Sanatorium - opened in 1904 by a Liberal Government, and from then on supported to the fullest extent by all of our Governments. Its **record** in the field of tuberculosis has been an outstanding achievement. During the past year another building was added by the Public Works Department - Miller Hall - named in honour of Dr. A. Frederick Miller, Superintendent from 1910-1947 - and is being used as a Training School for the education of affiliate student nurses and student nursing assistants. Many improvements were made during the past year. The able administration has been carried on by Dr. J. Earle Hiltz, since the retirement of Dr. Miller.

As a former member of the Board of the Nova Scotia Training School, I am particularly pleased to note that the Winter Works Program is being utilized to expand building facilities at Brookside, where there has been great need for some time.

It is encouraging to know that the problem of present and future unemployment in the coal mining areas is receiving, and will continue to receive, the close attention of your Ministers. And Mr. Speaker, that comes from my heart, being a true Cape Bretonian. (Applause).

February 8th, 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - continued.

At the same time, it is pleasing to know that the Provincial economy as a whole, has shown expansion during the past year. This has been strikingly supported by the special edition of The Chronicle Herald, of January 16th, in which the banner-line states: quote, "Province enters new era of Prosperity - with a sub-head: quote, "Pulp, steel industries on upsurge", and the lead paragraph: quote, "Nova Scotia and its people stepped into 1961 fondling an air of optimism, a promise of expansion, and a vision of a new era of economic prosperity - determination and confidence underlining every phase of endeavor"

It is pleasing to note that Industrial Estates Limited will continue and intensify efforts to expand industry in this Province. We feel that Industrial Estates has had an increasing flow of accomplishments. It is not too much to hope and expect that the future will bring to fruition an ever greater proportion of the projects upon which Industrial Estates has been, and will be engaged.

One of the last and most satisfying matters with which I had to deal during my last year as Mayor of Kentville, was the decision of Formex Company of Canada to establish a plant in our town. Recently a spokesman for the Hyuck Corporation of New York, the parent company, stated that it was Industrial Estates very generous terms which focused Hyuck's attention on Nova Scotia, with the eventual decision to locate in Kings County's shire town, after investigating many sites.

February 6th, 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - continued.

Other companies have found that other locations in the Province are more suitable for their type of industry.

Work on the Formex plant which, with equipment will cost some three and a half million dollars, is expected to be completed by the first of September this year.

We are pleased to see that the needs of University students have been recognized, and that an increase will be made to their Loan Fund.

We learn with interest of the preparation by the Department of Municipal Affairs of a report, determining, for the purposes of the Education Act, the full value for assessment purposes, of all property liable to municipal taxation under the Assessment Act. The fact that this is now to be done annually, rather than every three years, will be of great benefit.

February 8th, 1961.

MRS. GLADYS CORNER - continued

As a Member of the Legislature for Kings North, in the agricultural county of Kings, we are most interested that the sale of farm products in the Province during the last season increased by more than three million dollars over 1959. Kings is widely recognized as one of the greatest agricultural counties in Canada. It leads the Maritimes in apples and small fruits, and poultry products; and ranks first in the Province in field crops, beef and dairy production.

Due to the removal of some one million trees, followed by British import restrictions, production of Annapolis Valley apples was drastically reduced. There have been some difficult periods, but we are most happy to say that with the lifting of some restrictions, and the prospect of more to follow, there is strong evidence that our apple industry is on the road back.

The Valley is well equipped with cold storage plants and packing house facilities. Improved production, along with high quality apples, and new marketing and packaging methods

February 8th, 1961

MR. GLADYS PORTER- continued.

in which there has been the fullest co-operation from our Department of Agriculture and Marketing, has made our apples the top seller in Britain.

Few realize that the products of our processing plants are marketed in many countries. This is particularly true of Canada Foods, Kentville. Shipments from this plant, including apple juice, concentrated juice, blueberries and pickles are marketed across Canada, the United States, Central and South America, and as far East as Arabia. A recent development is the canning of blueberries for the United States and Canadian food manufacturers. More than 15 million small cans for blueberry muffin mix will be exported this year. These, and concentrated apple juice, will be marketed under nationally known brand names. These blueberries are the product of Nova Scotia.

Naturally, it was gratifying that Nova Scotia is the only Province to show an increase in hog production last year. There was fine co-operation with the farmers by our Department of Agriculture and Marketing. Kings county has marketed hogs to the value of almost a million dollars the last two years.

In the matter of field crops, it must be a satisfaction to all Honourable Members, and particularly to the Minister of Agriculture and Marketing that Valley Potatoes have come in for high praise from merchandizers of food products in our Province.

February 6th, 1961.

MS. GLADYS PORTER- continued.

Recently, in Kentville, at a Meeting of the Nova Scotia Potato Producers' Association, it was stated that Nova Scotia Potatoes are preferred over those imported from other provinces by a wide margin.

Growers were told by buyers of three large Chain Food Stores that they could handle more than double the production of the table stock now being grown. Also two potato chip plant managers lauded certain varieties of valley potatoes as the best in the manufacture of chips.

In close support of farming development is the Kentville Research Station, where research work is designed to keep abreast of scientific developments in agriculture and allied industries. There are also other Federal and Provincial areas where such work is carried on.

The scientists and research workers, who are helping our agriculture to progress steadily and normally, are making an invaluable contribution to our country.

It is gratifying to know that the construction of new bridges to replace existing structures, will be continued. One of major importance to traffic in the Valley, is that of the Port Williams bridge, which crosses the Cornwallis River, connecting Kings North and Kings South. This single lane four-span bridge is now over 75 years old, and has a great volume of traffic in the movement of apples, potatoes, lumber, pulpwood, as well as tourist and general traffic. Repair work was done on the bridge last fall, but this is temporary. We hope the bridge will be given a priority rating.

February 8th., 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - Continued.

A matter of interest and importance to Western Nova Scotia, and on which our Government has previously announced its policy, is in regard to the Minas Basin Ferry to operate between the shores of Kings and Cumberland counties. Your Government has already said it will provide the services and pay the operation of deficits, if any. This leaves the Federal Government to provide wharfage, and it is understood surveys are continuing in that phase by Federal engineers.

It will be interesting for many to learn that the salt water sport fishing program of the Tourist Bureau, of the Department of Trade and Industry, will be expanded during the year. In my constituency at Hall's Harbour, Baxters Harbour, Scotts Bay, and Kingsport, as well as other localities in Kings, Annapolis and Digby, are settings for deep sea fishing unexcelled.

In 1960's record-breaking number of miles hard-surfaced, our Department of Highways completed two projects in Kings North of much importance to the Tourist development. First was the completion of the road from Centreville over the mountain to Hall's Harbour. Ordinarily this was a difficult, stony, dusty road to travel. Now, it is a remarkable fine piece of highway, that has drawn the praise of people who have to travel it regularly, as well as summer residents, and the people of the near by towns who can reach



February 8th, 1961.

MRS. GLADYS PORTER - continued:

the Fundy shore in comfort to enjoy the sea breezes and deep water fishing and boating.

The other important completion was the paving of 4.4 miles from the Pereaux area, up the north mountain to the Look-Off, one of the outstanding tourist attractions in Eastern Canada. For many years this work has been petitioned for by Boards of Trade, and its fulfillment is a matter of great satisfaction.

Additional paving has been done in other sections in Kings and, recently, I had the privilege of joining my Kings South colleague, in announcing that the completion of the paving of the Kentville-Chester Highway, from Kentville to New Ross, will be undertaken this year. (Applause). The contract has already been awarded.

The tourist industry of Western Nova Scotia, which is vital to our economy, cannot help but materially benefit by the paving program in both the Annapolis Valley and the South Shore.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in seconding the Honourable Member's motion.

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