

*Development of Film Industry*

make a decision on this bill today. I do not think for one moment that we can complete debate on this bill in the committee of the whole house today. I say this for the following reason. On checking over the debate that took place on June 20 and after listening to the debate today I find that there is a division of opinion in the house. Some hon. members are absent today as they did not expect this bill to come up for discussion.

When the bill was first discussed on June 20 one or two hon. members on both sides of the house expressed opposition to it. To protect their position I think we should make sure that they are given a chance to speak on this bill at some stage or another. The very fact that, as the minister said, the bill has been exposed since June 20 does not mean that it has been considered. I made a calculation that by six o'clock tonight the house will not have spent more than three hours in discussing a bill which is considered to be of considerable importance, and in considering a proposed expenditure of \$10 million.

I do not think that three hours is adequate time to spend on a bill of this nature, and to consider a proposed expenditure of that magnitude. I suggest that the house should be a little more cautious and should not proceed so rapidly on this particular measure. The minister does not seem to be overly enthusiastic about the bill or she would have made a statement on the opening of the debate on second reading, which she did not do. It was only under some pressure that she consented to make a statement at the conclusion of second reading. So that all we have had from the minister is what she said to us on the resolution stage way back on June 20. Several very important comments were made this afternoon and there are some hon. members here who are very interested in this measure. I think their case should be heard and so should the point of view of other hon. members who, at the resolution stage, expressed serious opposition to it. That being the case this committee should adopt a responsible attitude and take its time in dealing with this measure.

I hope that hon. members will believe me when I tell them that I am speaking in good faith and that I do not just want to delay the bill. I want responsible consideration of it. I have an open mind and I am prepared to be convinced that this is an essential feature in Canadian public life.

23033—783½

**Miss LaMarsh:** Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak on this point of order. The hon. gentleman has ignored the fact that this legislation has been called every day of the week. Surely all hon. members are expected to be in the house during the week, and would have had the opportunity to find out when this legislation would come up. The hon. gentleman said that there is some disagreement. I suppose there is some disagreement on everything, including the colour of one's eyes. But generally hon. members have shown pretty general agreement with respect to this matter.

• (5:50 p.m.)

Hon. members on all sides of the house have had some very interesting contributions to make. When the hon. member suggests I have refused to say anything I would point out to him that I have given up my right to speak first so that other hon. members may have an opportunity to make more lengthy remarks. Following that, I will answer them to the best of my ability. I would be very happy, if hon. members gave proper consideration to each of the clauses as they came up, to let the matter be dealt with at once.

**Mr. Hamilton:** Mr. Chairman, with regard to my request for information, one of the questions that bothers me is the production of films. Sometimes we in Canada have a perverted sense of nationalism. For instance, we note the feeling in the C.B.C. that to produce a Canadian show all of the personnel involved, from the director down, through the technicians to the actors and actresses, should be Canadians.

It has become obvious that this attitude has slowed down the development of Canadian talent. In the fields of basketball, American football and Canadian hockey we have found that if a country does not know anything about these sports they import the best they can get in these particular fields of endeavour into their own countries, so their local boys can learn the necessary techniques.

We have seen this occur very dramatically in Canadian hockey, where just a generation ago there was hardly a nation in the world could stand up even to the most average of Canadian teams. So successful have these countries been in importing a few Canadian coaches and players that today Canada is very hard put to match these other countries in our own native sport.

In the matter of film making we have in Canada today a number of directors who I think would match directors of almost any