

**Dr. Monet:** If I may, I will plunge immediately in medias res. Many of you are in a hurry, I assume, and have a good deal of work to do today.

**The Chairman:** Do not assume that. Take your time.

**Dr. Monet:** What I would like to do—and the chairman has suggested this—is suggest some general thoughts and themes which would be pertinent, and then, more precisely, talk about some specific images that could be put into the windows. We might then discuss points which I may not have made clear.

I have read with great interest the record of your previous meetings and the suggestions which have been made so far about themes. Themes were suggested about unity, sacrifice, peoples, discoverers, animals, explorers, and even illustrations of the talents and duties of senators.

I would advise that you retain themes which have to do with the Senate chamber and the institution of the Senate, and not others. Explorers, discoverers and such themes are good, they are exciting, wonderful and breathtaking, but I think they are not *ad rem* in the Senate chamber.

My suggestion would be to retain themes from Canadian history and the Canadian experience which touch on and illustrate something that has to do with the Senate. I do not wish to make a pun here or use a mixed metaphor, but, since we are talking about windows, I suggest themes which show the Senate in a good light. In reflecting upon this, I tried to think of points—it was not difficult to find points—that are characteristic of the work of the Senate and illustrative of the Senate chamber itself.

As the chairman brought out in his speech last April in the Senate, a speech which led to the setting up of this committee, the Senate chamber is the place that unites the three branches of Parliament—the Crown, the Senate and the Commons. Furthermore, in the Senate chamber are united, at the opening of Parliament or at the installation of the Governor General, the three powers of government—the executive the legislative and the judicial. In this the Senate chamber is unique. It is the only place where the three branches of Parliament and the three powers of government are actually united.

This is a rather important fact and a rather powerful theme that could be exploited in the decoration of the Senate chamber. It is a unique institution. It is the *locus in quo*, of these double three, if you will—of the three branches of Parliament and the three powers of government. In that sense the Senate chamber itself is the symbol of unity. It is the only place in which all of this is united and brought together. So that the theme of unity is one that would be very appropriate to this kind of decoration and this kind of work. That is the Senate chamber itself. You can see that there are possibilities for the development of this theme of unity, of the three powers of government and of the three branches of Parliament.

The second point connected with the Senate of Canada is that it is, I believe, the only appointive upper house in the New World. I am subject to correction here because perhaps in Jamaica or British Guyana, or some other country which has connections with the British parliamentary system, a similar situation may apply.

In this I believe the Senate is a characteristic Canadian institution that is unique. The House of Lords is hereditary, for example. It is not appointed, in the same sense. Unless the Legislative Councils of Jamaica and British Guyana are appointed—I am not sure—the Canadian

Senate is a unique institution in the New World. The Senate of Australia is also elected, I believe.

**The Chairman:** Certainly at the time the Senate was established it was the only appointive Chamber in the New World.

**Dr. Monet:** That is characteristic of the institution of the Senate, and places it in direct succession in Canadian history to the Sovereign Council of New France, the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia in 1758 and the councils of Upper and Lower Canada. These two characteristics of the Senate—the Senate chamber itself as the focus of unity and the idea of the appointive upper chamber—are in a sense, reflective of the unity and sovereignty of Parliament—the three powers and the three branches—and of the non-elective appointive character of many Canadian institutions. So these, I believe, are two permanent themes in the Canadian experience.

There are other themes, and they have been referred to in previous testimony. As I say, they are legitimate and good. They are themes of the Canadian experience, which have to do with the Northern climate. Mon pays, ce n'est pas un pays, c'est l'hiver. That is a very permanent and deep characteristic of the Canadian experience.

The idea of discoveries, the unity of church and state in Canada, the links with Western Europe, the connections with the United States, and so forth, are examples of such themes. What I am suggesting is that those themes are not *ad rem* in the Senate. To bring out the quality of the chamber and the institution, I believe we should focus on the Canadian people and the institution of Parliament—the experience of the Canadian people, which is in organized settlements, and the experience of Parliament. Perhaps I can say something about each one of those two themes before becoming a bit more specific about precise images.

The first theme is tied in with the idea of the appointive upper chamber. One of the traits or characteristics of the Canadian experience is that of institutions which go from the top down instead of from the bottom up. It will become apparent what I mean by that. To take one symbol which is very well known to all of us, the symbol of the settlement of the Canadian West, as opposed to that of the American West, is an RCMP officer. The Canadian experience is not one of a wild West, with cowboys, posses, frontier excitement, and so forth, out of which democracy emerges and the various settlements elect people and ask to become members of the union. Our symbol is simply an RCMP officer. It is a very different kind of symbol to that of the American West, and it is a very different kind of experience that is being symbolized.

The Canadian experience is that organization, law and order, come first, followed by the settlers. The kind of organized settlement which is characteristic of the Canadian West is a characteristic of all the Canadian people, of all the major settlement groups, including Champlain, Cornwallis, the Loyalists, Lord Selkirk, and each one of the other main settlement groups. In all cases in the Canadian experience, the values and principles of authority, hierarchy, order, tolerance, organization, law and order—and I am thinking of Sir James Douglas and the gold rush of the Fraser Valley, and so forth—respect for the rights of others—the motto of the RCMP is “Maintiens le droit”—came before the settlers. In other words, the framework was put in place and then the settlers were brought in and placed in that framework.