

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

the proper authorities bring to reason the responsible people in the C.A.H.A., who exert full control over sports in Canada, so that they will grant the permission being asked in this case. Of course, the unusual circumstances requiring those young people to go and play in Europe are appreciated.

As I said earlier, we are not asking money of anyone, we are accepting all the responsibilities. We are only asking not to be hindered. If we do not get that permission from the C.A.H.A., we shall not be able to make a good showing in Europe. Does that make any sense? Those young people are liable to penalties.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to insist on the fact that all the sport reporters in the province of Quebec, without exception, provided all those concerned with a considerable amount of clippings on this subject and endorsed the project. They cried shame when they saw that the C.A.H.A. would not listen to reason in such a case. Like many others, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the time has not come to bring the C.A.H.A. to its senses for good.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Jean-Charles Cantin (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, following the question put this afternoon to the hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Winters), probably

in view of his responsibility concerning Expo '67, the minister contacted the president of the Canada Amateur Hockey Association, Mr. Page.

The minister has asked me to point out to all those concerned the importance of this matter. Indeed, the matter has been brought to his attention by two members, the hon. members for Saint-Henri and Trois-Rivières (Messrs. Lessard and Mongrain). In view of those representations, the minister felt himself bound to discuss the matter this afternoon with officials of the association.

The minister has reviewed with Mr. Page all the details of this matter and has asked him to make sure that all angles of this problem are taken into full and serious consideration; he also expressed the hope that a decision will be taken only in the light of all the circumstances in order to ensure a just and fair decision.

I expect that the hon. member will be satisfied that the minister went as far as he was allowed to.

I may add, in my personal capacity as member for Quebec South, that I would look favourably upon the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association taking exceptional decisions in exceptional circumstances. I would be happy to wish "Bon Voyage" to our pee-wees.

[*English*]

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 1.18 a.m., pursuant to special order.
