

legislation deals with minor corporations, one holding assets of \$9.00. As honourable senators know, \$9.00, as a percentage of \$190 billion, is something like the splash a raindrop makes on the top of a pin; the splash is hardly discernible.

In any event, Senator Kelly did present this bill. Although it does deal with trivial matters, I suppose they are necessary matters in law. I have read carefully what Senator Kelly said. He did give the reasons for the legislation. I see no reason for not speeding this legislation on its way. I hope that when Senator Kelly introduces a similar bill it has more substance to it than this one.

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I take advantage of the debate to make a correction to a comment which I made yesterday, and which I think was inaccurately reported. That comment had to do with the corporation—which is also being dissolved or liquidated under this legislation—which holds the official residence of the Canadian Ambassador to the Vatican.

I am reported to have said:

It is a company residence—

I did not say that, and it is not a company residence. It is a very comfortable and very satisfactory residence for the Canadian Ambassador to the Vatican, but I will not go into all of the details which made it necessary to constitute a corporation in order to acquire that residence for the Ambassador. I simply want to correct that reference to “a company residence.”

Senator Hicks: Is it located inside the Vatican or outside the Vatican?

Senator MacEachen: Outside of the Vatican, near the Roman Wall. The gardens abut the Roman Wall.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

On motion of Senator Doody, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY ACT

BILL TO AMEND—SECOND READING—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. Heath Macquarrie moved the second reading of Bill C-69, to amend the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security Act and certain other Acts in relation thereto.

He said: Honourable senators, it is a pleasure and an honour to have been asked to introduce second reading of this important piece of legislation. I recall clearly how, in the last Parliament, the Senate dealt with the bill which this bill proposes to amend. We had then a short but impressive debate. Two excellent speeches were given then, one by the Honourable Senator John Stewart, the other by the Honourable Senator Duff Roblin. I thought that if we had in the interval adopted that modern panacea for political and economic problems in Canada, to wit, have an elected Senate,

[Senator Sinclair.]

Senator Stewart might not have been here and I would not have been able to pay him the compliment that I do. He may not be in the chamber at the moment, but he is a member of the Senate, and I am pleased about that. I recall his excellent speech.

At that time the Senate, as did the House of Commons, gave strong, multi-party support for the establishment of what I think is a splendid institution. I believe, too, that there is support for that institution among the Canadian public. Since its establishment, I believe that the support has strengthened and increased. The appointment of Geoffrey Pearson, a distinguished son of an illustrious Canadian, the most famed diplomat we have ever produced, Lester Pearson, has strengthened the support and goodwill for the institution. I think, too, that most Canadians believe that among the directors are eminent supporters of peace and disarmament in the country, many of whom have already earned distinction in the broader international world.

Although I have referred briefly to the importance of the bill we are amending, and the institution to which reference is made, Bill C-69 is, essentially, a housekeeping bill. I believe the most important aspect of the bill is that it underscores the desire of the present government to ensure the independence of the institute from the government and, indeed, from Parliament as well.

● (1500)

This bill provides for an amendment to the Financial Administration Act to add the institute to the list of crown corporations exempt from certain directions of the Governor in Council. The existing seven are: Bank of Canada; Canada Council; Canadian Broadcasting Corporation; Canadian Film Development Corporation; Canadian Wheat Board; International Development Research Council and National Arts Centre Corporation. This bill proposes to add, of course, the Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security.

We have heard from time to time in recent months the expression, “arm’s length,” in reference to governmental control and administration of important functioning bodies. We might say, if we were being informal, that Bill C-39 allows for the—

Senator Hicks: Bill C-69.

Senator Macquarrie: If I said “39,” I erred. I cannot understand how that happened. I appreciate the correction.

Senator Muir: Perhaps that is your age!

Senator Macquarrie: Senator Muir says that perhaps I am thinking of my age. Had I been doing that, I would have made the mistake of calling it Bill C-66. Before we got into this penchant for correctitude, I was going to say that perhaps this bill might be construed as making the arm a little longer. That is what I was about to say in my merry Thursday afternoon way.

To show that I may be metaphorically sound once in a while, but anatomically outrageous, I was going to say that, “in another vein,” if we look at another important part of this