

Indian Act

develop these resources themselves or to set up a Canadian consortium for that purpose. But in these regions which come directly under the jurisdiction of the federal government, the Canadian parliament has an opportunity to set up a Canadian consortium with a majority of public ownership and control so that the development of these vast areas will redound to the benefit of Canadians today and Canadians of future generations. The Panarctic consortium which has been established is controlled in the main by United States oil companies. It seems to me that if this assertion of our sovereignty is to have any meaning it must go beyond merely asserting our control over territory; it must also assert Canada's intent to develop the resources of that area for the benefit of Canadians.

[Translation]

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, the members of the Ralliement créditiste are pleased to hear the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) say that Canada actually has sovereign rights on the Arctic islands, but there is some confusion as regards the surrounding waters.

At all events, we hope we never have to cross American, Russian or Chinese waters in order to reach any region in Canada.

Mr. Speaker, at any rate, the statement made by the Prime Minister makes it clear that Canada is sovereign, as far as those Arctic areas are concerned.

I approve also what the leader of the N.D.P. (Mr. Douglas) said, that if Canada rules the Arctic, we should endeavour to proceed with the development of the tremendous natural resources of that area, instead of letting foreigners take them over, to the prejudice of Canadians. To encourage foreign investments is perfectly in order, but it is not proper that foreigners should exploit all those resources to their advantage. A share should at least be given to Canadians who deserve, I believe, to benefit from the development of the natural resources of their country, specially in the Arctic.

PRIVATE BILLS AND STANDING ORDERS

CONCURRENCE IN SECOND REPORT

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Quebec East) moved that the second report of the standing committee on miscellaneous private bills and standing orders tabled in the house on Thursday, March 27, 1969, be concurred in.

[Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands).]

Motion agreed to.

[English]

INDIAN ACT**AMENDMENT PERMITTING INDIAN WOMEN TO MARRY NON-INDIANS WITHOUT LOSS OF RIGHTS**

Mr. Raymond Rock (Lachine) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-193, to amend the Indian Act (rights of Indian women upon marriage).

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Rock: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this bill is to enable an Indian woman to marry a non-Indian without being deprived of her rights as an Indian and thereby place her on the same basis as an Indian man who marries a non-Indian woman. Presently such persons lose all property rights willed to them by their parents.

Motion agreed to, bill read the first time and ordered to be printed.

• (2:30 p.m.)

Mr. Speaker: When shall the said bill be read a second time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Speaker: Is there unanimous consent to give the bill second reading now?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

An hon. Member: No.

Mr. Speaker: Next sitting of the house.

CANADA DISASTER FUND

On the order:

May 13, 1969—Mr. Harding—Bill intituled: "An act to provide for the establishment of The Canada Disaster Fund."

Mr. Speaker: I am advised that the table has not yet received a copy of the bill in question. In view of the fact that the bill has not been presented it is difficult to propose first reading at this time.

Mr. Harding: Stand, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Reservé.