

THE SENATE

Friday, December 18, 1964

The Senate met at 11 a.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, I have the honour to present a report from the Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament, recommending that certain rates of pay for the professional employees of the Library of Parliament be brought in line with the recently revised rates approved for librarians of the Public Service.

Hon. John J. Connolly: Honourable senators, I suggest that we dispense with the reading of this report because it is quite lengthy. I would ask that it be tabled and that any honourable senator interested in doing so may examine it at the table, and that we give the report consideration later this day.

For text of report see appendix, p. 1294.

CANADIAN COMMONWEALTH FLAG

MOTION FOR DESIGNATION ADOPTED

Hon. John J. Connolly moved, pursuant to notice:

That this house do recommend to the Government that such steps as may be necessary be taken to provide that the Royal Union Flag, generally known as the Union Jack, may continue to be flown as a symbol of Canada's membership in the Commonwealth of Nations and her allegiance to the Crown.

He said: Honourable senators, in a speech earlier this week I attempted to review the progress made by this country as it moved from the position of a colony to that of a nation. Another aspect to our nationhood which is particularly important in this year of 1964, and which will continue to be of great importance, is our position in the international sphere. Canada is a member of the United Nations for the purpose of helping to promote the peace. She is a member of NATO for the purpose of helping to defend the peace. After the First World War, she became a member of the League of Nations and one of the founding members of the International Labour Organization. We are, of course, members of other international organizations and groups, and our membership in many others is sought, including the Organization of American States.

All of this points up to us in Parliament, and to our people in the country, that the world is contracting. It is contracting because of the facility and speed of communications, the ease of travel and, generally, because of the development of technology. If the world has been a contracting one, then the problems of countries all over the world very often become domestic problems for countries widely separated from the trouble spot.

Hunger in the Orient presents a problem for Canadians, they feel the impact of it. The population explosion to be expected in Latin America will present a problem, and we can anticipate that we shall be concerned with the economic, political and social consequences which arise from it. The requirements of technical assistance and aid of all kinds in the developing and underdeveloped countries of Asia and Africa have not only been a source of concern to us, but we have been trying to do something to help solve that problem. Even in the long-established countries of Western Europe, interdependence has become one of the important priorities in their public programs. They have alliances, as they have always had, of all kinds. Perhaps the most significant one of recent days has been the establishment of the Common Market which is designed to bolster their free economies. This international type of organization is required in our day to foster the economic development of developed countries, to foster too the economic development of developing countries. It is necessary also to assure the economic strength of the western world.

Members of the Senate who have attended meetings of the NATO Parliamentarians—and I hope we shall soon have an opportunity to hear reports from some of our representatives who attended the last meeting a month ago in Paris—particularly those senators who sat upon the Economic Committee under Senator Javits of New York, will know what importance is placed by that committee upon the study of these problems.

The importance of the idea of national sovereignty today gives way to the importance of the idea of dependence and of interdependence. Indeed, the central problem of countries and of governments today is not so much one of dealing with wealth as it is one of dealing with poverty.

There are many reasons why Canada should have an interest in affairs beyond its borders. Canada is the fourth trading nation of the world. We have vast resources in this country and upon them we have built immense resource industries which supply products and materials for economies everywhere in the world. We have also, under the