

the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group. The Canadian delegation consisted of six senators, namely, honourable Senators Leonard, O'Leary, Macnaughton, Willis, Phillips (Rigaud), myself, and eighteen members of the House of Commons. The American delegation was composed of delegates from both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

As honourable senators know, each year since the start of these meetings in 1959, twenty-four Canadian parliamentarians and an equal number of United States senators and congressmen meet in camera to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern to the two countries.

The 1969 meetings were held in Ottawa last June, after which the delegates visited Jasper and Banff National Parks. Discussions at this year's meeting were conducted as usual in two committees. Committee I dealt with Trade and Economic Affairs. I had the honour of presiding over this committee as co-chairman with Senator Frank Church (Democrat) from Idaho. Committee II, on Defence and Security Matters, was presided over by Mr. J. H. Faulkner, M.P., and Congressman C. E. Gallagher (Democrat) from New Jersey.

The Trade Committee considered various problems of Canadian American relations, such as foreign investment policy, measures to control inflation, the automotive agreement, energy policy, including water, oil and gas matters, pollution and related problems.

The Defence Committee discussed questions relating to NATO and NORAD, the Arctic, east and west relations, and policies with respect to Communist China, Latin America and the Caribbean.

As honourable senators will appreciate, these problems are serious, probably the most important we have with our neighbours to the south. Though these discussions took place at the parliamentary level, I am convinced that in due time they will help in reaching, at a higher level, satisfactory solutions with both countries.

I understand that the honourable Senator O'Leary, who was the only delegate from the Senate on the Defence Committee, will speak later in this debate and will report on the exchanges of views which took place in that panel. Since I have mentioned Senator O'Leary, perhaps it is an appropriate occasion to outline the outstanding contribution of our distinguished colleague during these meetings in the United States.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Deschatelets: Honourable senators, I must inform you that for a period of two weeks before we left Ottawa the Canadian delegates had briefing sessions at luncheon meetings almost every day. They were briefed by experts and high Government officials, and I am convinced that few previous Canadian delegations have been as well briefed and prepared for discussions with our American colleagues.

As far as I am concerned, I confess, and have no hesitation in saying so, that I learned much during these briefings, particularly in so far as the problem of the Arctic is concerned and Canada's claim to sovereignty there. I have learned much more from these meetings than I had ever learned before. In passing, may I say that I think it might be useful to invite from time to time some of the experts who could give us much worthwhile information on the problems of today, such as questions on the Arctic. However, this is a matter which I leave to the chairmen of our various standing committees.

I think the occasion is appropriate for me on behalf of the Canadian delegation to thank those Government officials who spent long hours with us in preparing us for this meeting. It may be of interest to honourable senators to know that in the Trade Committee four honourable senators had the distinction of leading the discussions, and indeed of making the opening statements on behalf of the Canadian delegation. I do not think that the Senate has on previous occasions taken as active a part as we did at this meeting. I am happy to report that honourable Senator Leonard introduced the discussion on inflation; honourable Senator Macnaughton introduced the discussion on pollution; honourable Senator Willis introduced the discussion on automotive agreements; and honourable Senator Phillips (Rigaud) on foreign investment. Of course they all fulfilled their tasks extremely well.

On March 24 last, just before the Easter recess, honourable senators had the privilege of hearing from honourable Senator Phillips (Rigaud) on the topic he introduced so ably in Washington, investments in Canada. At the end of his exposé in Washington, Senator Phillips (Rigaud) made it perfectly clear that he was not expressing the opinion of the Canadian delegation, but merely his own personal view on the debatable question of American investment in Canada. Honourable senators who have read the speech of honourable Senator Phillips (Rigaud), and who may not share the views he expressed will, I hope,