1270 SENATE

Amendment of Hon. Mr. O'Leary (Carleton) negatived on the following division:

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The Hon. the Speaker: I declare the amendment lost.

Hon. Mr. Sullivan: I was paired with the honourable Senator Hayden. Had I voted, I would have voted for the admendment.

Hon. Mr. Fournier (Madawaska-Restigouche): I was paired with the honourable Senator Macdonald (Brantford). Had I voted, I would have voted for the amendment.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary (Carleton): I was paired with the honourable Senator Crerar. Had I voted, I suspect I should have voted for the amendment.

Mr. Macdonald (Cape Breton): Honourable Senator McCutcheon was paired

Thorvaldson was paired with honourable Senator Dessureault, and honourable Senator Blois was paired with honourable Senator Hugessen.

The Hon. the Speaker: The question now is on the main motion.

Hon. John M. Macdonald: Honourable senators, it is not my purpose at this hour of the evening to unduly delay you, and I do not think that I can add anything which might be new or which might be original to the debate which has taken place. However, I think this debate has brought out in a very clear manner the main points of division between those who support the proposed new flag and those who are opposed to its adoption.

I do not propose to recapitulate the arguments put forward on both sides. They have been clearly and definitely stated, and they are fresh in our memory. It is my view and my conclusion, after listening to the debate, that one of the main arguments advanced for the adoption of the proposed new flag, or of any new flag, rests upon the assumption that Canada as a free and independent nation should have a flag which contains no symbol that might be construed as implying we are under the rule or dominion of Great Britain, either directly or indirectly. It would appear that there is a fear people of other lands and other nations might conclude from our present flag that we are still a colonial possession; that they would mistake us for one of the emerging nations that has not yet reached that stage of political and economic maturity and development which would justify its complete independence. I can appreciate such a point of view, even though I believe it to be a mistaken one.

If we in Canada have been able to build a nation; if we in Canada have been able to play our part in international affairs, as I believe we have; if we have made the name of Canada well known throughout the world, as I believe we have, then we can safely assume that we are not being confused with any other nation or any other people.

Surely there can be no confusion as to our identity. Canada is one of the great exporting nations of the world, sending its goods and products to every other nation on earth, and buying from them in return. Our people have made Canada known by their actions, by participating in international affairs, by their voice and actions in the United Nations and their participation in international conferences, by treaties and with honourable Senator Cook; honourable trade agreements of all kinds and, yes, Can-Senator Aird was paired with honourable ada was made well known by its participa-Senator L. P. Beaubien; honourable Senator tion in two of the greatest wars ever known