

Private Bills

Mr. Pearson: Then give us the proof.

Mr. Harkness: I have only a few minutes before five o'clock.

Two years later he was saying he had made a mistake and that we should not have nuclear weapons in any circumstances. Then, not long ago, he said we should not have them but that we should let the United States come in and have them in Canada.

Mr. Pearson: I did not say that. Quote that.

Mr. Harkness: The president of the national Liberal association out in Calgary said we should have nuclear weapons. Others in the Liberal party say that in no circumstances should we have them.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): What is your position?

Mr. Harkness: In other words, they have now twisted themselves right round in a circle. Now they say that we have no position—

An hon. Member: But you are the government.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): You take a position which is not that taken by the minister for external affairs.

Mr. Harkness: We have a position, and I am prepared to state it again very briefly. We have said, and we continue to say, that the attitude taken by the Leader of the Opposition, both in 1958, and now, when he wants us to answer yes or no to the question "Are you going to have nuclear weapons?" is completely unrealistic and is not the way to approach this problem. We have said that the only wise course, the only course of prudence, is to secure those weapon systems that are capable of carrying warheads and to train men in their use. We have secured those systems. We have secured the CF-104. We have secured the Honest John battery. These are weapon systems which are capable of taking nuclear warheads. We have trained people in their use and are still in the process of training people in their use as far as some of them are concerned. Thus, we are in a position, or will be in a position that, should an emergency develop, we would have weapons in the hands of our forces equal to those in the hands of the enemy they would be required to fight. The position the Leader of the Opposition and his cohorts are now taking, this demand that we should say at this moment what we are going to do, is not related to the facts as they exist at the present time. The opposition itself has

no position with regard to this matter, yet they are trying to confuse Canadians with regard to the definite and reasonable position which we have adopted.

The Chairman: It being five o'clock it is my duty to leave the chair so that the house may proceed to the consideration of private members' business as set out in standing order 15.

Item stands.

Progress reported.

PRIVATE BILLS**EVANGELICAL MENNONITE MISSION CONFERENCE**

Mr. G. R. Muir (Lisgar) moved the second reading of Bill No. S-5, to incorporate Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference.

He said: The purpose of this bill is to obtain a charter for the Evangelical Mennonite Mission Conference which has been in existence for a period of four years as an unincorporated association. The objects of the corporation, as the bill states, are to promote, maintain, superintend and carry on, in accordance with the Christian faith, doctrines, constitution, acts and rulings of the corporation, any or all of the work of that body.

The bill allows the central administrative body of the association to administer the affairs of the conference and further co-ordinate the efforts of the 18 participating churches located in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The powers which the corporation is seeking are set out in clause 9(1) of the bill and are similar to those granted to other religious bodies from time to time. At present the total membership of this church is 1400. Four of the churches are located in and around Saskatoon. Eleven are in the area between Altona and Morden in Manitoba which is one of the two areas originally set aside in Manitoba by the administrative council for settlement by the Mennonite people in the early 1870's. Nearly all the members of this group can trace their ancestry back to the first settlers.

This corporate body will also facilitate the missionary work of the congregations comprising its membership and, by pooling resources, make the general work of the congregations concerned more effective.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the standing committee on miscellaneous private bills.

BROCK ACCEPTANCE COMPANY

Mr. Murray Smith (Winnipeg North) moved the second reading of Bill No. S-9, to incorporate Brock Acceptance Company.