

and Construction Limited and a number of pulp and paper companies.

An article appeared in, I think the *Toronto Telegram*, the other day written by a columnist not unknown to members of this house, Dalton Camp. He was discussing a resolution adopted in the other place and proposed by a former national organizer of the Liberal party, Senator Davey. A committee was appointed to look into the single ownership of virtually all English speaking newspaper, radio and television interests in New Brunswick. By whom? By K. C. Irving. It may not be significant, as Mr. Camp points out, that the only time some people became interested in this control by Mr. Irving was when Mr. Irving started to oppose the Liberal party in New Brunswick. I make this comment as an aside to point out the tremendous influence in the maritimes which Mr. Irving has.

One can look at the interests of a well-known Toronto—or is it now Bahamian?—citizen, Mr. E. P. Taylor, who through his corporation controls a very substantial percentage of the breweries of this country, Dominion stores, Hollinger Gold Mines, B.C. Forest Products, Massey-Ferguson, Standard Radio; and I suppose I could go on for the next hour. One could look at another corporation whose name is not unknown to members of this house. I refer to James Richardson and Sons, which controls or has a controlling interest in several companies. They are: North American Elevators, Intercolonial Trading, Pioneer Grain, Valley Investments, and so on. All this has been documented in the book to which I referred, "Intercorporate Ownership", prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The questions which I tried to ask the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Basford) was whether his department was using this information and studying this material to see whether the kind of growth, the kind of gobbling up of companies which is going on by the large corporations of this country is, first of all, in conflict with the anti-combines laws of this country. After all, it was a Liberal government 50 years or more ago which first introduced the anti-combines legislation. It has not been very successful, but are those laws being breached through those corporate mergers, and if they are, is the government proposing new legislation?

• (10:10 p.m.)

Are we, through these corporate mergers, getting more and more administered prices,

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prices fixed not by supply and demand, not by the cost, but simply on the basis of what the owners, managers and directors of these corporations feel the traffic will bear? Are we paying more for pulp and paper where there has been no competition for some 50 years? Are we paying more for oil and for minerals than we ought to pay? These are the questions which this report poses in much greater detail and in much stronger language than anything which I or any member of the party which I represent has done in the past. It seems to me that the members of this house and of the public are entitled to know in the very near future if not tonight what the government proposes to do in this field.

There is one last point I wish to make. This report, extensive as it is, does not tell the people of Canada who in fact owns these corporations. It only makes clear that many of the holdings are in the names of other people. There are nominee companies, and we do not know who the actual owners are. Are we going to get the kind of law, and when are we going to get it, such as they have in the United States which will require both public and private corporations to state who owns them, what their assets and their worth are, what their profits are and what profits they are making in terms of percentage on investment? These are questions which are of vital importance to the people of Canada and to which we cannot get any answers until the government brings in legislation. I think we are entitled to know when we are going to get that kind of legislation.

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): The publication of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to which reference has been made consists of data which corporations with revenues above \$500,000 or assets above \$250,000 are required to file under the Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act. Copies of these corporate returns are always kept on file in the corporations branch of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and are available for inspection by the public. Thus, the new D.B.S. publication which is based on 1965 data does not reveal any essentially new facts. It provides an analysis and makes the information more readily available to the public.

Officials of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs have made use of this information for purposes of a general merger inquiry and also for a study of concentration