

distances, language difficulties, the nomadic habits of the population, its rapid increase, the different degree of civilization, the various creeds, etc.

(Text):

Let us look at the work of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, a department which has five main branches, namely: Mines Branch, Geological Survey, Surveys and Mapping Branch, Geographical Branch, and Dominion Observatories.

In this department, with its five main branches employed in widely differing fields, it is difficult to cite its most outstanding accomplishments.

Probably the most significant achievement of the Geological Survey Branch was the successful completion by using helicopters of the preliminary or reconnaissance mapping of 250,000 square miles of the Canadian north. This was done in three seasons, by accomplishing in each season what would have taken an old-style ground party 25 years to complete.

The production of maps has increased by 30 per cent in the last five years. The map in the Railway Committee room, produced by the department by hand methods, required the full-time efforts of skilled craftsmen for two years. Other noteworthy accomplishments are the use of "shoran" methods of surveying; and the use of echo-sounding devices in the hydrographic surveys which greatly speed up mapping of our coastlines. Canada, incidentally, has the third largest hydrographic fleet in the world, and a new survey vessel, the *Baffin*, will be launched this year for work in the far north.

The Mines Branch does all the metallurgical work for the atomic energy plant at Chalk River and does valuable research in extracting uranium from ores in various parts of Canada.

In summary, the department provides the maps and scientific knowledge used by those enterprisers who are most vitally concerned with developing the resources of this great country.

The Department of the Secretary of State—As honourable senators know, there are three divisions in this department, namely, the Companies Division, the Registration Division and a Special Division; and the department also includes the Custodian of Enemy Property, the Patent and Copyright Office, and the Trade Marks Division. The present Royal Commission on Patents, Copyrights, Trade Marks and Industrial Designs is under the chairmanship of the Right Honourable J. L. Ilesley, Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, formerly Minister of Finance and Minister of Justice. The important amendments of 1955 to the Election Act were

sponsored by the Secretary of State. The Bureau for Translations is also under him. He sponsors the estimates of the Civil Service Commission, and I congratulate him upon the excellent appointment of Mr. S. G. Nelson as chairman.

Post Office Department—Honourable senators, one of the most reliable barometers of business conditions in the country is the continued increase in the use being made of our postal services. This physical increase has been apparent every year since the end of the war, and last year a similar increase was recorded to the extent of 6 per cent over the previous year. In other words, in that year postal business reached the highest point in the long history of the service.

The Department of National Defence reports that the strength of the regular force has increased by over 12,000 from March 31, 1953 to the end of 1955. The department is doing very well in defending our country. HMCS *St. Laurent* was commissioned in the autumn of 1955, and after inspection by naval experts from Canada and our allies this ship has been pronounced the most lethal anti-submarine ship of her type. The Department of National Defence has continually improved, and Canada has done a lot for mutual aid.

With regard to the royal commission concerning TV and radio, I had occasion to communicate with the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation about a program that was given over the air, and in which the Senate was ridiculed. I was not then sworn as a senator, but I wanted to give a defence of the Senate. The chairman was kind enough to send me a copy of the script, and I wrote to him. Would honourable senators permit me to read the letter I wrote to him, and also his reply? This is part of the letter I wrote to the chairman:

I wonder if you have given your approval to the song in which it has been many times repeated that the Senate is no longer needed (pages 35, 36 and 37 of the script).

CBC should be the last one to ridicule our Parliamentary institutions.

Will you please tell me who is the script writer, where he was born, and how much he has been paid for writing that script?

I received this reply from Mr. Dunton:

I believe a more careful reading of the rather crude English of the song you mention will show that in it there is not even in comedy any suggestion that the Senate is no longer needed. It is clear from the song and from other mentions in the script that the "House" to which the singer is referring is the House of Commons.

Some Hon. Senators: Oh, oh.