

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

case, let us face up to it and do something about it rather than pretend we have an act that is effective in avoiding the worst effects of collusion and the phony competition which exists in this and other industries.

**Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to assure the hon. member that there is no reluctance on the part of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Basford) to take whatever action is necessary under his jurisdiction. Since the hon. member for Waterloo (Mr. Saltsman) raised this question in the house on April 23, which question my minister answered immediately in the light of the information he had available, the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) put a similar question on the order paper. This question was duly answered on April 30, and the answer can be found in *Hansard* at page 8162.

The minister then stated that an application had been received under section 7 of the Combines Investigation Act, signed by Roberta Gray and others. He also stated that the general practice with regard to inquiries under the act is that no information is given out as to whether a particular inquiry is being pursued, unless and until a report is published, or as the act may require. This policy is adopted because section 28 of the act states that all inquiries shall be conducted in private unless the chairman of the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission orders that any or all portions shall be conducted in public.

My minister, nevertheless, acknowledged that the application to investigate sugar companies had been received, because a Montreal counsel having knowledge of the application wrote to some members of parliament informing them about it. With respect to all other aspects of the inquiry, however, the minister's reply of April 30 indicated the necessity of observing the privacy provision of the statute.

[*Translation*]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION—  
SUGGESTED REPLACEMENT FOR  
"DON MESSER'S JUBILEE"—

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, on April 29, as reported at page 8101, I asked a question in the house regarding the discontinuation of the program "Don Messer's Jubilee".

I am happy to note tonight the presence in the house of the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelle-  
[Mr. Saltsman.]

tier) and I shall begin by thanking and congratulating him for the work he has done to promote culture throughout Canada.

I am convinced that had he been called upon to make a decision regarding the discontinuation of that program, his decision would have been different from that of the C.B.C.

I should like to thank him tonight—because this is the first opportunity I have of doing so—for the very generous grant he has awarded to the *Petits Chanteurs de Granby* who are part of our culture, because tonight the subject under consideration is also related to culture.

I also know the minister understands that Canadian culture is not only popular music, or opera. I like opera, personally, and I believe the minister appreciates it too. I also have a taste for classical music.

On the other hand, the purpose of my intervention is to know from the minister who made the decision within the CBC to cancel this program so popular with millions of Canadians. I do not consider folklore as the only means of Canadian culture, but it is part of it. If we take into account the numerous letters and representations received by hon. members generally, we should recognize that the arbitrary decision made, not by the minister but by the C.B.C., was a thoughtless one which is arousing protests from all quarters across the country at the present time.

Now, I believe that the minister is well placed to realize that the program has been very popular in the past and still is with millions of Canadians. And that is why, tonight, I would like to know from the minister whether the C.B.C. could not earnestly reconsider its decision. In various circumstances, he showed that he wanted a sound culture for Canada. We do not want a culture based on folklore exclusively. On the other hand, folklore is part and parcel of our culture. In fact, that program was authentically Canadian and contained no element imported from the United States or other countries. It faithfully reflected the culture prevailing in our rural areas and appealed to millions of Canadians.

That is why the minister understands our representations, I believe, and why we do not intend to blame or raise a general outcry. Instead, we would like to get a decision more logical than that which was made by the C.B.C., and I rely entirely on the minister's good judgment.