

## Government Orders

● (1550)

Culture in Canada and Quebec is now at risk. What can and must be done about it? First, we need our heritage minister to be properly equipped, to have the proper legislative tools to act. Instead, we have the Minister of Industry saying: "Communications. That belongs to me".

At this rate, telephone comes under communications, television comes under communications, banking transactions, specially those made at an automatic banking machine, come under communications. What about education then? Will it also come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Industry, when it is televised?

When the medical profession will make use of telecommunication media, will it become one more thing under industry jurisdiction? Telecommunication can be such an area of responsibility, but only insofar as the equipment is concerned and at the exclusion of content, which much be the responsibility of other appropriate departments. My point is that there is nothing in the legislation before us, absolutely nothing, that gives the Minister of Canadian Heritage authority to act.

I would even go further. With this chunk of the electronic highway—and we know that this highway is coming and that it will take many forms—how can we prevent goods and services from crossing our borders electronically, when we know full well that we have legislation in place to prevent them from entering in material form?

Take hate propaganda, for example. In electronic form, we cannot do a thing about it. Terrorist instructions are already circulating on Internet, here in Canada and Quebec. This would never be allowed if it had to go through a border point. What will we do to stop this? Our heritage department must be able to negotiate GATT-type agreements with our global partners, so that all countries with approved electronic data links will agree to protect their mutual interests. Therefore, the Act to establish the Department of Canadian Heritage should enable our heritage minister to tell the countries with which we will have electronic links: "If we receive a signal that should not be received, we expect you to take those responsible to task, and we will do the same for you".

We will thus be able to protect our cultural interests, first by avoiding invasion as we will have control over what is coming in. It is not a matter of hindering the free flow of information, but of seeing that what would not be allowed through a border point cannot get through electronically either. We can also agree to export our own cultural wealth overseas and not let barriers be put in place over there.

In conclusion, the bill as it stands should not be approved by this House nor by the other place, as it does not meet the requirements Canadians and Quebecers are entitled to.

[English]

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger):** Is the House ready for the question?

**Some hon. members:** Question.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger):** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

**Some hon. members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger):** All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

**Some hon. members:** Yea.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger):** All those opposed will please say nay.

**Some hon. members:** Nay.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Kilger):** In my opinion the yeas have it.

*And more than five members having risen:*

Call in the members.

(The House divided on the motion which was agreed to on the following division:)

(Division No. 156)

## YEAS

## Members

Allmand  
Assadourian  
Baker  
Barnes  
Bellemare  
Bertrand  
Bhaduria  
Bodnar  
Boudria  
Brushett  
Campbell  
Chan  
Crawford  
DeVillers  
Dingwall  
Dromisky  
Easter  
English  
Finestone  
Flis  
Gagliano  
Galloway  
Godfrey  
Graham  
Grose  
Harb  
Hickey  
Hubbard  
Irwin  
Keys  
Knutson  
Lavigne (Verdun—Saint-Paul)  
Lincoln  
MacAulay  
Malhi  
Manley  
Marleau  
Massé

Anderson  
Axworthy (Winnipeg South Centre)  
Bakopanos  
Beaumier  
Berger  
Bethel  
Blondin—Andrew  
Bonin  
Brown (Oakville—Milton)  
Bryden  
Catterall  
Cowling  
Culbert  
Dhaliwal  
Discepolo  
Duhamel  
Eggleton  
Fewchuk  
Finlay  
Fry  
Gagnon (Bonaventure—Îles-de-la-Madeleine)  
Gerrard  
Goodale  
Gray (Windsor West)  
Guarnieri  
Harvard  
Hopkins  
Ianno  
Jordan  
Kirkby  
Kraft Sloan  
Lee  
Loney  
MacDonald  
Maloney  
Marchi  
Martin (LaSalle—Émard)  
McGuire