

will have the effect of closing the debate on the motion for the second reading of this bill.

**Hon. Duff Roblin (Leader of the Government):** Honourable senators, I have not much to add to the debate that has taken place in this chamber with respect to this bill, but I do want to refer to an observation made by the Leader of the Opposition with respect to the reference in the bill to the presentation of the activities of this institute to bodies in the House of Commons.

We are, of course, always interested to have this chamber recognized in legislation from time to time as may be deemed appropriate, and perhaps it was an oversight that it was not included in the original legislation. However, whether or not it was an oversight does not prevent us from correcting it, because in this chamber we have quite a different committee system, by which I mean to say that the committees themselves can decide what they wish to do. They do not require a reference from this house, except of a general nature. On the other hand, if they do require a reference from this house, it can be given in accordance with the expressed will of the Senate rather than by a decree of the executive.

Therefore if honourable senators think that representatives of this body whose activities we are discussing should appear before the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs to deal with the matters we have raised and to give an account of its activities, there is nothing to prevent that committee from so arranging, and without in any way attempting to instruct the members of that committee, I simply say that the matter is before them. If they feel that it requires their attention, they are free to act, and the notion that it requires executive agreement has no bearing on our procedure.

**Senator Macquarrie:** Honourable senators, I would like to take the opportunity of thanking Senator MacEachen for his comments. We knew that those comments would be good and helpful because we know that he was a very fine Secretary of State for External Affairs. As I promised him when he came to the Senate, because I was a great friend of his I would never talk about his tenure as Minister of Finance. However, as Secretary of State for External Affairs, he was a positive force in the world and, in my opinion, one of our best ministers. He has again proved himself today by his wisdom and his counsel and even by his confession that, in another place, he may have been a bit remiss in considering the rights and the importance of this honourable chamber which he now graces and in which we value his presence.

I will take the question that Senator MacEachen has asked, and similarly that asked by Senator Haidasz and, in a researched and academic way, verify what I am confident will be answers with which they will be content.

In these matters, when an organization of some sort is set up, members of Parliament of both houses are anxious to display their interest in, concern for and support of such an organization. However, in the process, we might momentarily be working against the arm's-length principle upon which the whole thing depends. Senator MacEachen was profoundly

correct in his suggestion that, while it may have been created in the days of obvious East-West tension, the institute should not confine its emphasis to that particular aspect of foreign policy. As Senator MacEachen rightly indicated, in the projects which this institute has already undertaken, it also has demonstrated that it is not so limited.

At this stage it is not for me to introduce new material, but I hope that honourable senators will allow me to confess that, in the old material, I made an omission. I regret that I did not make reference to Ambassador William Barton, the chairman, whom I first met at the United Nations longer ago than his appearance would indicate. He is a man whom I have admired for a long time and I think the institute in Canada is most fortunate that he is its chairman, together with that distinguished gentleman diplomat, Geoffrey Pearson, the Executive Director. I am glad to get the reassurance from my honourable friend that Mr. Pearson was the chosen candidate of the former government, because he is truly a proven and dedicated statesman.

With reference to such other answers as may be required, I will consult with such people as Senator Roblin, Senator Macdonald and other learned persons and have that information available when the bill comes before us for third reading.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

On motion of Senator Macquarrie, bill placed on the Orders of the Day for third reading at the next sitting of the Senate.

#### NATIONAL FILM BOARD

##### MOTION TO EXAMINE AND REPORT ON FILM ENTITLED "THE KID WHO COULDN'T MISS"—DEBATE CONTINUED

Leave having been given to revert to Order No. 4:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Molson, seconded by the Honourable Senator Macdonald (*Cape Breton*):

That the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology be authorized to examine and report upon the activities of the National Film Board with respect to the production and distribution of the film "The Kid Who Couldn't Miss".—(*Honourable Senator Godfrey*).

**Hon. John M. Godfrey:** Honourable senators, the reason I am speaking on this motion is really to discuss the problem of this type of matter being referred to a committee. This point has already been well covered by both Senator Frith and Senator MacDonald. I have seen the film and can only say that I do not wish to go into the merits of the film itself at this point.

● (1520)

I recall the question of government interference with cultural organizations, which is so topical lately. When I was appointed to the board of directors of the Canada Council