

Supply—Privy Council

time so if the Prime Minister will allow me to do so I should like to read it as it is. It is as follows:

(Translation):

That it is desirable that the Canadian people should know as much as possible about their country, its history and traditions; and about their national life and common achievements; that it is in the national interest to give encouragement to institutions which express national feeling, promote common understanding and add to the variety and richness of Canadian life, rural as well as urban.

(Text):

From those two statements, the one which I took from la *fédération des associations de parents et d'instituteurs de langue française d'Ontario* and the other from the royal commission on the arts, letters and sciences in Canada, it would appear that valuable information would be taken away from these groups if in the future it were not possible to obtain the ethnic origin of the citizens who are registered under the act. In making that statement I speak, I am sure, not only for many of the members of the opposition but equally for many of the members of my hon. friend's party. I know I have had the opportunity to speak not to all of them, of course, but to some of them, and I think they feel as strongly as I do and as strongly as these associations on the matter.

I do not want to overstate the case, because the Prime Minister has been good enough to listen to what I have had to say notwithstanding the fact that perhaps I am not strictly in order. All I want to do is state that while this matter may not be determined for some years, nevertheless I appeal to the Prime Minister to give consideration to what I have said and to the representations that have been made by these associations. I feel that he will do so.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Chairman, I do not know the basis for this discussion, and the hon. gentleman quite frankly admitted that he was out of order. However, I am one of those who like to hear things discussed in parliament. Particularly when the opposition has anything to advance, I would be the last one to rise and object to discussion, even if it was irrelevant.

As far as any references to myself may be concerned, may I say that I do not know the basis upon which they were determined. There has never been any discussion of the matter. That is a matter for the Secretary of State. There has never been anything whatsoever done or said which would indicate any basis for this discussion at this time. I am glad the hon. member, speaking with obvious conviction, placed his viewpoint before the committee. I am sure the manner

in which it was presented would certainly be such as to commend itself to the listeners as it did to me.

Item agreed to.

Privy Council Office—

309. General administration, \$470,046.

Mr. Fisher: When I yielded the floor three hours ago, Mr. Chairman, I did not think that it was going to take so long to get it back, but it was a very pleasant diversion. I am sure we all enjoyed the exercise in parliamentary wit or brilliance. The point I was making, Mr. Chairman, to the Prime Minister was in connection with the quick reply of the government to United States allegations that might have called in question the position and attitude of the secretary to the privy council. What I want to raise has something to do with a domestic matter, but I think it is just as important because it is along the very same line. I have in my hand something which was circulated to all members of parliament and which is entitled.

Comments by CHWO on "This is Your World Today", 6.40 P.M.—Wednesday, August 6, 1958.

This is an attack upon the so-called lobbying activities of the Canadian broadcasting league in its attempts, I suppose, to put forward its position to the government. This attack is by a radio broadcaster, and I suppose it is from the point of view of the broadcasting people. There are a number of statements in this document which are in very bad taste in the matter of the Queen's first representative in this country, and the fact that it is hinted—

Mr. Diefenbaker: May I ask the hon. gentleman who produced this document? I do not know what the document is.

Mr. Fisher: It has been produced by radio station CHWO at Oakville, and copies have been sent to all members of parliament. The references to the Queen's first representative indicate that he has supposedly financed this radio league. There are inferences here or implications, as I take it, that he seems to be still exerting an influence. But we can leave that matter aside. On page 2 this attack against the Canadian broadcasting league gets down to this:

Meantime, two other names are often used by people in reference to radio league influence in high places. One is cabinet secretary J. R. Bryce. The other is Mr. Dunton himself—

And it goes on to rail against them. Then the concluding part of this particular broadcast that has been circulated states:

The remarkable thing about the radio league—the broadcasting league—call it what you will—is that party labels have held no special terror for it.