

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Mr. Chairman, as you all know, we had investigations on the income tax problem as proposed by the senator from Toronto, Senator Campbell. One of the successes of the committee in getting tremendous public support was through a steering committee, as Senator Burchill just suggested. I feel that if we appointed four or five members of this committee to do something along that line we should make progress.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Mr. Chairman, I agree with practically everything that has been said, and particularly with what Senator Burchill said: that unfortunately the recommendations of a Senate committee do not always receive the attention that they should on the part of the government. However, I feel that it is only by continued pressure that we shall eventually obtain at least a measure of what we want.

Senator Haig has referred to the recommendations made last year by the Taxation Committee. That committee did good work and made some good recommendations. Unfortunately, largely because of the influence of the head of the Taxation Branch our chief recommendation was not accepted. I for one was very much disappointed. I felt that in some respects our work was almost entirely in vain, but I do not think so now. Whether it is because of the fact that a change has been made in the Income Tax Branch, the fact remains—and I do not think I am betraying any confidence particularly when I say this—that under present conditions and under the present headship, if you like, what we recommended last session is very likely to be implemented. I say that with some information behind me in regard to the matter. I think the present head of that branch is very sympathetic to the one thing we want.

Honourable members, we can accomplish a good deal by hammering away and continually pressing for the thing we want. Senator Burchill also asked what Senator Roebuck got for the excellent work which he did. Well, he has accomplished something of importance: and I agree that if we continue to press the matter we shall have some really successful impact upon the government.

Senator Burchill also said this, and I agree absolutely with him, that results are obtained not only by pressure exerted by a Senate committee—which I do not think has got quite the influence with the government that it ought to have—but mostly by the pressure of public opinion. Public opinion can only be formed through the press. If through this committee or any other committee we can induce the press to hammer away continually at what should be done, it is bound to have some influence on the public.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: I agree entirely with Senator Euler. I think that if the committee sat every year and did not feel that it was getting anywhere, it would still be developing public opinion. Last year it stimulated a lot of interest that had not existed before. I am close to the newspaper business and I know how this matter was discussed. A great many organizations have taken the same attitude, and I feel that the door is opening a little further. If we keep at it it will open further by bringing out information that is necessary for public opinion.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: I should like to make one or two observations on this point. I agree generally with what has been said. What is required as much as anything else is a clear cut statement, of what the immigration policy of this country is. Not only in this country, but abroad, many people are trying to find out what the Canadian policy on immigration is, and I feel that our present method of dealing with immigration over a period of time was wrong. It may be necessary to restrict immigration today because of lack of shipping facilities, lack of housing accommodation and other matters, which make it