

Mr. Gillespie: It seems to me that it is an arrangement regularizing normal diplomatic intercourse.

Mr. Paproski: Shame, shame.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, the preoccupation of hon. members opposite is pretty obvious.

An hon. Member: It is an agreement or a declaration.

Mr. Woolliams: But he can't read.

Mr. Gillespie: A protocol is an important social exchange between two countries. This protocol provides an opportunity for Canadians, on the one hand, to learn something of the problems of a northern people and how to deal with them, and an opportunity on the other hand for the Russians to learn how we have dealt with some of our problems.

• (2:50 p.m.)

Mr. MacInnis: "So it says in my notes".

Mr. Gillespie: But more than that, one of the most important aspects of the protocol, of this relationship, is the opportunity it provides for the Russians to have access to the western point of view.

Mr. McIntosh: They have six spy rings now, or is it seven?

Mr. Gillespie: We have a number of common interests. We are a northern people and we have similar types of resource problems, as I understand it.

An hon. Member: Both have the American problem.

Mr. Gillespie: Some of my colleagues who were with the Prime Minister on his recent visit to Russia are in the House with us now. We welcome them back. We are pleased to see them and assure them that we followed their progress in Russia with a great deal of interest.

An hon. Member: How are things in the salt mines?

Mr. Gillespie: They will be able to speak at a later date from firsthand knowledge of the problems there, and how the Russians are or are not dealing with those problems. They will be able to speak from firsthand knowledge of some of the things the Russians are doing in Arctic navigation.

Mr. MacInnis: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond rises on a point of order.

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order because of the information given to this House on the Prime Minister's trip to Russia. When he was dealing with northern problems he referred to a point one hundred miles north of Montreal, Mont Tremblant.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. I should mention to the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond that this point of order does not meet the

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requirements of the Standing Orders of this House. I think the Chair should say to the hon. member that, although the Chair appreciates the good mood of the House this afternoon, hon. members should not go so far as to prevent the member who has the floor from speaking.

Mr. Gillespie: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think another aspect of the common interest we have with the people of Russia is the native people of the north. We have Eskimos and they have Eskimos. They have other native peoples, namely the Chuck Chee. Perhaps the hon. member opposite might learn something if he listened.

Mr. McIntosh: If he listened to whom?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Speaker, they have a land which is under-populated. They have boreal forests. They have to deal with the question of permafrost. They have done such things as build dams in permafrost. I suggest these are things we as Canadians might learn from them.

I should like to refer to the recent report of the Senate committee on Science Policy for Canada, Mr. Speaker. At page 122 the report states that Canada spends about 2.5 per cent of the total research and development dollars of ten of the industrialized countries of the world. These are all OECD countries and do not include the U.S.S.R. The report goes on to say that we obviously cannot be self-sufficient in technology and we may not even be able to compete successfully in research and development programs that involve huge expenditures.

Obviously it is in the interest of Canada to gain what it can from the experience of others and to learn from the science and technology information of other countries. This is precisely what the protocol said. I shall quote from one of the preamble paragraphs:

Endeavouring to improve and further develop relations between the two countries by means of high-level contacts, expanding ties and exchanges in the fields of economy, trade, science, technology, culture and northern development.

The preamble also "notes with satisfaction the conclusion of the Soviet-Canadian agreement on Co-operation in the Industrial Application of Science and Technology, and the development of trade on the basis of the 1956 Trade Agreement". Mr. Speaker, various steps have been taken by this government and other governments to gain for Canada the advantages of the research and development of others. I should like to trace some of these in the few minutes remaining to me. In 1959, under the government of the right hon. gentleman opposite, the National Research Council formed an agreement with the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. This agreement opened up for Canadian and Russian scientists an opportunity for exchange visits. Over a period of slightly more than ten years, more than 100 Canadian scientists have undertaken research projects in Russia and a comparable number of Soviet scientists have pursued their research work in Canada. The agreement signed by the then president of the National Research Council of Canada was renewable. I should like to read one particular paragraph of a letter from the president of the NRC dated October 28, 1959