

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

expense of the South Africa Foundation, which is a foundation established in South Africa—supported by big business—to protect commercial interests and to improve the public image. It is my information that one, Jimmy Sinclair of Vancouver, has visited South Africa at the invitation of this foundation. But one must say in all sincerity that so far as these people are concerned, they have not made any pronouncements whatsoever in so far as that country is concerned.

Surely Canadians can at least recognize the fact that we must do everything possible in opposing apartheid and racism. We cannot be proud of our Indian and Eskimo situation, but at the same time if we want to remain within the world of nations we must stand up and be counted. When we look at a recent copy of the *Globe and Mail* we see that South Africa is referred to as a police state. We find that an Anglican dean has been confined to prison. Of course, it becomes an issue as to whether or not we are prepared to stand up for the right of individuals to express their opinion against apartheid and racism.

I would sincerely ask that the government indicate to the House tonight whether in fact, when visiting Members of Parliament go to other countries, they are really speaking for the government of this country when they associate themselves with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Paul St. Pierre (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): I must say it is rather interesting to hear the hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Skoberg) quote a newspaper in Durban, South Africa, with such authority. I wonder whether on other occasions he would bring forward the statements of a newspaper in that country as substantiation for the facts which he is putting before the House. He has mentioned the names of three members of this Parliament. I would be curious to know whether he has approached them and asked whether that report was correct or incorrect.

Mr. Skoberg: I am asking you.

Mr. St. Pierre: It is quite possible for the member to go to the Members of Parliament and ask, "Are the facts correct as presented, or are they not?" I cannot ask him this question in the course of my answer tonight, but since he has not gone to them I must assume—

Mr. Skoberg: How do you know?

Mr. St. Pierre: —he has accepted the statement of a newspaper in Durban, South Africa, as being official and accurate. I hope he will remember this on other occasions.

Mr. Skoberg: How do you know I have not gone to them?

Mr. St. Pierre: Would the hon. member permit a question?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The parliamentary secretary has the floor and I suggest that the hon. member should give the representative of the government his three minutes.

Mr. St. Pierre: I would be delighted if the hon. member would answer this question, but I am sure he would not

[Mr. Skoberg.]

care to do so. Have you asked the Members of Parliament concerned whether or not these statements are correct?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest to the parliamentary secretary that he has only three minutes, and he has already used up two minutes of his time. He has about 50 seconds left.

Mr. St. Pierre: The position of the Canadian government is very clear. The position represented in the South African newspaper is entirely contrary to this government's policy. The Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) has on many occasions reaffirmed this government's and the Canadian people's abhorrence of South Africa's apartheid policy. The South African government is well aware of our views with regard to racial discrimination in any form. I should like to quote the following remark made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs on November 3:

The sooner apartheid ends in South Africa the better the world will be.

INDIAN AFFAIRS—FUTURE OF MOHAWK INSTITUTE

Mr. Derek Blackburn (Brant): Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to address the House on a very important matter concerning the constituency of Brant which I have the honour to represent. The area along the banks of the Grand River has always been synonymous with Indian history and tradition since the eighteenth century when Joseph Brant and the Iroquois loyalists came from New York state to settle the region. Over the years the Iroquois have established for themselves one of the most progressive reserves in Canada, although there is still a great deal to be done in the area of economic development.

One very important area that still needs greater development is in the sphere of Indian culture. If the native people of this country are to maintain their great cultural legacy to pass on to future generations, I would like to suggest that the federal government should in every way possible provide sufficient funds for their needs.

In the report of June 30, 1971, the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development, of which I am now a member, recommended that the federal government promote the development of Indian culture. I quote briefly from that report as follows:

• (10:10 p.m.)

That all curriculums within the federal program be revised to include:

(a) substantially more Indian history, including Indian contributions to the economy, science, medicine, agriculture, explorations, etc.

(b) special courses in Indian culture, music, art handicrafts, etc., and that pressure be brought upon the respective provincial systems to inaugurate similar reforms wherever Indian children are being taught.

The report continues:

The committee is convinced that the stimulation of pride in one's culture and background is an essential ingredient of the reform which is required in our schools.

The report went on to outline the determination to promote native language instruction, pre-school instruction, vocational training in native crafts, as well as the setting