

affect from a licensing point of view motorists who have radios in their cars and who simply want to listen to radio programs.

Hon. Mr. Isnor: The bill has really no effect in so far as the average automobilist is concerned. If a motorist of one country uses his radio to pick up news in the other, there is no violation of the laws of either the United States or Canada. The bill applies, for example, to a tourist representing one of the large American oil companies who, on his way to Edmonton or Calgary or some other western point, wishes to establish contact with his home office or station.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Isnor moved that the bill be referred to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications.

The motion was agreed to.

THE SENATE AND ITS WORK

MOTION—DEBATE CONTINUED

The Senate resumed from yesterday the adjourned debate on the motion of Hon. Mr. Roberston for the appointment of a special committee to inquire into and report upon how in its opinion the Senate may make its maximum contribution to the welfare of the Canadian people.

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck: Honourable senators, one of the suggestions made by the government leader (Hon. Mr. Robertson) in his speech when he introduced this motion, was that there should be an age limit, so perhaps it will not be inappropriate for me, in commencing my few remarks this afternoon, to point out to the house that today is the sixtieth birthday of the honourable gentleman who moved the resolution.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: I have no doubt that his career to the present time has been as entirely satisfactory to him as it has been to us, and I join with the other members of this house in wishing him many happy returns of the day, and express the hope that the future years may be as happy for him as the past ones have been.

Hon. Mr. Duff: In the Senate.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Yes, in the Senate. And although my immediate neighbours will not join with me in this, I may say that as long as he is spared I hope he will continue to occupy in the Senate the position that he now holds.

I come now to the subject of my remarks. So long as I can remember, the reform or

abolition of the Senate has furnished those seeking intellectual exercise with an interesting topic of conversation. This subject is an all-time hardy perennial. It flourished before you and I were born and I think I can safely predict that it will still be doing business at the old stand after you and I have departed. Nevertheless, while this topic may be somewhat threadbare, I wish to congratulate the government leader on the very comprehensive and excellent address which he delivered in support of his motion. I wish to extend the same congratulations and compliments to the honourable leader of the opposition (Hon. Mr. Haig). When he concluded his powerful address, a most excellent oration and one of the finest speeches I have ever heard in this house, I felt that perhaps the job had been done and that we need not say anything more about it. I for one feel the honour that it is to be a member of the Senate of Canada; I am grateful to those who kindly fathered my appointment to the Senate, and I look back with joy and satisfaction to the years during which it has been my privilege to be here. Now a formal resolution has been placed before us, and we should do something about it. Something which affects the actual organization of the Canadian nation and is vastly important to the future of Canada is thrown into the arena of debate, and it becomes the duty of all of us to be heard and to show where we stand.

As I listened to the mover of this resolution, in an address which I have already characterized as an excellent one, I was somewhat puzzled and mystified as to the capacity in which he claimed to speak. The member for Shelburne (Hon. Mr. Robertson) gave us to understand that he made his address and moved his resolution in his private capacity. I am wondering whether he can do that.

Hon. Mr. Duff: No.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: I do not think it is possible. When the honourable member introduced this resolution he was not only a member of this house, as he has been for the last five and a half years, but government leader, a position of great honour and responsibility which was conferred upon him by the direct action of the Government of Canada, and which he has held during most of that time. He moved his resolution from the desk of the leader, and moreover his resolution was seconded by the deputy leader (Hon. Mr. Hugessen). I confess that I lack the nimbleness of mind and eye required to enable one to follow him as he jumped from one capacity to the other in this connection. I suppose