

as we saw fit. Some amendments stood up and some did not—and we stood up to the Government when we thought it was necessary. We did so on the Coyne affair, and we did so on the “class or kind” matter.

Hon. Mr. Walker: Did you ever stand up to the Liberal Government?

Hon. Mr. Croll: Yes, we did.

Hon. Mr. Walker: When?

Hon. Mr. Croll: I will take a minute or two to tell you.

Hon. Mr. Choquette: It was in caucus!

Hon. Mr. Croll: No, no. It was in the house. We had a bill dealing with the railroad strike, and in the course of that discussion I spoke against it.

Hon. Mr. Walker: What about the Senate?

Hon. Mr. Croll: I do not think there was any occasion in the Senate—

Hon. Mr. Walker: Not while you were in it.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I have told you quite frankly, I am a Liberal and still am.

An Hon. Senator: Converted?

Hon. Mr. Croll: Sometimes we made our views stick. I never looked upon this Senate as being a carbon smudge of the House of Commons. In this Senate we have face and character, we have a life of our own and we have a responsibility of our own; we have pride and accomplishment and a desire to serve; and we think we are something in our own right.

In this particular recommendation, we make a leap into yesterday, when the House of Commons is making a leap into tomorrow. The House of Commons is moving into the procedure of the committee stage, where we have operated so successfully for such a long long time. They consider this to be a long step forward, yet they had much argument and sweat and toil before they were able to reach that decision—while we are asked to consider a backward step.

The committees of the Senate have an unusual reputation. People did not come before the committees unprepared. There was no pulling the wool over our eyes. If you tried it before any of these committees, you were usually left bleeding a little. You had to know your stuff and you came prepared, or else. The great strength displayed by the

committees was the collective knowledge and responsibility. When a man appeared before a committee of the Senate and had a good day, he went home and told his friends about it, and he boasted to his children that he was among men for a day and survived.

This Senate has always been a workshop, not a theatre—those are not my original words; everyone knows where that statement comes from.

The Committee of the Whole in this day is an outworn concept. It has been so in the House of Commons and I think the Senate should agree.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: The reason why the House of Commons has reached its conclusion is that it was taking too much time. On the contrary here, we are always criticized for not taking more time.

Hon. Mr. Croll: Actually, it was not a question of taking too much time. They had time, and as a matter of fact it is taking them more time now. It was a more expeditious means. It was a matter in which a member could get involved; he was king, he was there and he voted there, and if he wanted to let the Government down, that was his responsibility. It was he who sat in judgment. That is a different thing entirely. This is the most progressive thing that has happened in Parliament in a quarter of a century. The Committee of the Whole is an outworn concept. We do not have to play to the gallery or attract attention. Our work can speak for us. We can live without this sort of publicity.

Honourable senators, in talking about publicity, I am still sizzling over that television exposure we had. What a colossal and miserable failure it was! One more like it, and we are done in! Here was a hurried undertaking. The television crew had to leave for Cuba. They had to get this work done. If I had anything to do with it, that crew would never have been brought back into the country. The photography was bad, the direction was worse.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): And the acting?

Hon. Mr. Croll: The commentary on it, as I am sure will be agreed, was amateurish.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): And some of the actors?

Hon. Mr. Croll: Senator O’Leary was good—but they had to finish it by saying that Senator O’Leary was 82 years of age. I