

• 1030

arise where we could be hindered by having such a broad charter with so many extra things in it that we do not need. People would begin to come after us.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

**The Vice-Chairman:** Shall I report the bill?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Vice-Chairman:** Thank you very much Mr. Gemmell and Mr. Lesage. The next order of business is Bill S-39. Mr. Joseph Guay, M.P., is sponsor of the bill and he will present, by coincidence again, Mr. Joyal who is parliamentary agent for the bill. The Preamble reads:

Whereas the Boy Scouts of Canada has by its petition prayed that it be enacted as hereinafter set forth in section 1; and

Whereas the persons named in section 2 have by their petition prayed that it be enacted as set forth in sections 2 and following, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the petitions: Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

You will remember that this Bill was introduced in the House and had first reading and the House concurred unanimously in it; therefore, it has been referred back from the House and is due to be reported back probably on Monday for third and final reading.

Mr. Guay?

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** I would like to present Mr. Marcel Joyal, who is here today for that particular purpose, Mr. Chairman. He will carry on from here.

**Mr. Joyal:** Thank you, Mr. Guay. Mr. Chairman, as witnesses on this particular Bill—which you will have noted, is divided into two parts; it touches the Boy Scouts of Canada and it also touches the l'Association des Scouts du Canada—Mr. Ross is present, who is the Chief Executive Officer for the Boy Scouts of Canada, and there is also Mr. Tellier, who is the Associate Commissioner General of the French-speaking association and Mr. Dionne, who is the Secretary General of the French-speaking association. This Bill, briefly, is the culmination of a great deal of negotiations which was conducted by people on both sides of the cultural fence to arrive at

some understanding whereby the excellent work which is being done by the Boy Scouts movement could be exercised probably more properly along more defined cultural lines. I suppose to give you the position of the Boy Scouts of Canada on this Bill, perhaps Mr. Ross might have a few words to say.

**Mr. Otto:** Mr. Chairman, before Mr. Ross proceeds, I understand, Mr. Joyal, that the purpose of the previous bill was to get it out of these Committees and out of the House of Commons and put it into the Corporation Branch. Indeed that was the purpose of the legislation, to clean up all of these incorporations charters and so on out of the House of Commons. This one, of course, reverses the process. Why? Can you not come under the Corporations Branch? Why is it necessary to have this in the House of Commons and continued in the House of Commons?

**Mr. Joyal:** My understanding of this is that first of all the Boy Scouts of Canada themselves wish to change their French name. They cannot do so—and I wish Mr. Lesage was still here to endorse this—under the existing provisions of the Corporations Act. They would lose their private status. I understand that the Boy Scouts of Canada, simply by reason of history, would be extremely anxious to keep the prestige of a private status.

• 1035

In any event they have to come to you to change their name. There is no other procedure available at the moment.

**Mr. Otto:** Well, Mr. Joyal, I understand what you are saying, but I would have hoped this Committee was sort of a self disintegrating Committee and in time there would be nothing for us to deal with, but it seems that this statute is going to be around for a long time. It might quite possibly be that there would be a Committee to deal with nothing else but the Boy Scouts.

**Mr. Joyal:** Yes.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** Mr. Chairman, might I ask a supplementary on that?

**The Vice-Chairman:** Yes. Mr. Guay.

**Mr. Guay (St. Boniface):** Possibly this might be for clarification, but I feel before doing what has been suggested that the aim or the purpose of this Bill is to get the two groups together. Once this has been done and