

Parliament buildings. I cannot see what sense there is in this.

We have here a resolution of Parliament which says: You may continue to fly the Union Jack. If it does not say: "You may not continue to fly other flags, or you may not fly this flag or that," then what on earth does it change? What significance has it? What is the effect of it? I am told I may continue to fly the Union Jack, but so far as the law is concerned I may also continue to fly the Red Ensign. This is the sort of thing that makes me suspect—and I do not want to be ill-natured about it—that there is something in the editorial of the *Toronto Star* which was just read by the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Brooks).

I have another question. I listened to the honourable Leader of the Government in his eloquent way telling about his great faith in the Commonwealth. Well, what does a member state of the Commonwealth such as Ghana do about this? Is it going to have a Commonwealth flag too? Mr. Nkrumah began not long back to show his deep affection for the Commonwealth by removing the Queen's image from his coins. Is he going to have a flag to show his loyalty to the Crown? And if we are to have two flags to show our loyalty to the Crown, are we not saying to India, to Australia or to New Zealand that we are more loyal than they? Are we saying to them: "You have only one flag to show your loyalty to the Crown, but we have two. We are twice as loyal as you are."

Surely, honourable senators, when we talk about having a Commonwealth flag, it follows that this should be the subject of a Commonwealth conference. And surely we are not so naïve as to think that this new Commonwealth is the old Commonwealth that we knew. I recall attending an Imperial Conference in 1921. It consisted of the old family of nations: Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and others. But, is it now being thought that this new Commonwealth resembles in any respect whatsoever the Commonwealth that existed then?

I remember when Mr. Bennett rose in this Parliament of Canada and objected strongly, and marshalled all sorts of constitutional arguments in support of his view to Ireland's joining the British Commonwealth because it was republic. Well, that sort of thinking is past and gone, but it does seem to me that before we go on talking about the Commonwealth someone, sooner or later, will have to take a good look at it as it is presently constituted, just as I imagine and fear a good look will have to be taken at the United Nations as it is presently constituted.

I think this resolution is humbug, and I have to say this—I do not want to be extreme, but I cannot avoid saying it—that

just as the resolution we passed yesterday bruised the emotions and sentiments of many Canadians, this resolution insults the intelligence of all Canadians.

**Some Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

**Hon. John J. Connolly:** Honourable senators—

**The Hon. the Speaker:** I must inform the honourable senators that if the honourable Senator Connolly (Ottawa West) speaks now, it will have the effect of closing the debate.

**Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West):** Honourable senators, Senator Hollett has asked me whether the Union Jack is flown by all other members of the Commonwealth as a symbol of such membership. I do not know. I should think that it is a matter for the decision of any one of the several countries involved, because they are all free and independent. It is for them to decide what they shall do to indicate their membership by the use of a flag. It is appropriate for any one of them to decide that in a certain way they will signify their membership.

I do suggest that the flying of the Royal Union Flag, which is the flag of the head of the Commonwealth, is an appropriate way for a country to indicate its membership in the Commonwealth.

Senator Hollett has asked me what flag was flown prior to the date of this resolution to show our allegiance to the Crown in Canada. I think from the resolution itself this is clear, because the word "continue" is used. It is clear that the Union Jack has been used for such purpose. In fact, the same effect would flow from the use of the Red Ensign, because it too has the Royal insignia upon it.

Senator O'Leary (Carleton) asks me what are the occasions upon which this flag will be flown? How can anyone predict what a Commonwealth occasion may be? I would think that with the increasing importance we continue to attach to Commonwealth matters, and to our membership in Commonwealth, we would be disposed to use the flag on every possible occasion that can be considered to be a Commonwealth occasion. It is sought by this resolution to give some official character to the use of the Union Jack. It is hoped that the use of the flag approved by Parliament, for occasions which are Commonwealth occasions, is given a little more significance because it thus becomes an official way of using the flag.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** On division.

Motion adopted, on division.