

appreciate it. But we have a Senate committee made up of all parties which has examined Information Canada, and it has come forward with the view that Information Canada is a good institution.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: No.

Hon. Mr. Martin: My friend says it hasn't. He has not read the report, nor listened to Senator Everett's speech which he praised so generously a few moments ago. The committee's report does come down in favour of Information Canada. The committee feels there should be certain limitations and that there are certain dangers, but it does come down in favour of it. It does not agree with the condemnation which Senator O'Leary has made.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: It does.

Hon. Mr. Martin: Senator O'Leary is entitled to his view. He is entitled to examine Senator Everett who, unfortunately, is away today on public business, or any other member of the committee. He can discuss this matter with Senator Yuzyk who sits right behind him. Senator Yuzyk will tell him that he supports the recommendations of the committee; he can discuss it with Senator Phillips, a hard working senator who joins with other honourable senators in support of this report; he can discuss it with Senator Welch or with his deskmate, Senator Grosart, who worked hard in the preparation of this report and who joins in support of it.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: No, no, no.

Hon. Mr. Martin: If he does not wish to discuss it with Senator Grosart, he need only walk down one step and discuss it with his leader who is also a member of this committee and who has not joined in presenting a dissenting report.

We all recognize your great quality as a journalist, Senator O'Leary, but we cannot join you in your condemnation of this Senate committee report.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: Might I ask one question of the Leader of the Government before he sits down. As a distinguished and very active member of the Cabinet, does he know now, or has he ever known, the number of persons employed in an information capacity in the various departments of government, the various branches of government and in the information department itself? Do you know the number of so-called information people employed throughout the various branches and departments of government?

Hon. Mr. Martin: I cannot now give you—

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: There you are. That is what I want to find out.

Hon. Mr. Martin: Well, you say that is what you want to find out, but that is the first time you have put the question today.

● (1450)

Hon. Mr. O'Leary: Everybody knows the place is over-staffed; everybody knows Information Canada is spending money like water without good purpose. You did not explore the position. Nor did the committee. I do not always agree with Senator Grosart. I am not here as a

trained seal to agree with Senator Grosart, Senator Martin or any other person in this house. I am not against the principle of Information Canada. I am against the manner in which Information Canada is being conducted, and I think the people of Canada would agree with me if they knew all the facts.

Hon. Mr. Martin: It is certainly not perfect.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: I should like to ask the Leader of the Government two questions. He said that I did not produce a dissenting report. Is he not aware that it is contrary to our usages to produce a dissenting report? Secondly, I should like to know, after his speech accusing Senator O'Leary of opposing this report, whether Senator Martin supports the report made by Senator Everett and endorsed by Senator Grosart? Is he prepared to support Senator Everett's request that this report not only be considered but that it be adopted by the Senate?

Hon. Mr. Martin: It is obvious I could support it subject to the comments I made today.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: Subject to? Come on, come clean for once!

Hon. Mr. Martin: My friend must not get excited and must not ask questions merely to put on record that he is here. If he puts a question, I am willing to answer him, but I am not prepared every time he puts a question to have it followed by a tirade of abuse. If he wishes to make a constructive suggestion we will all be very glad to hear it.

Hon. Mr. Flynn: On a question of privilege: I think the remarks of the Leader of the Government about my putting questions merely to show that I am here are petty, entirely irrelevant and completely unjustified. I will not answer him because I don't consider such remarks deserving of a reply. If that is an example of the senator's sense of humour, then I consider it to be sadly deficient, not to say non-existent.

On motion of Senator Langlois, debate adjourned.

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES READJUSTMENT ACT

BILL C-277 (HURON)—FIRST READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-277, respecting the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act.

Bill read first time.

SECOND READING

The Hon. the Speaker pro tem: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. John M. Macdonald, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 44(1)(f), moved that the bill be read the second time now.

He said: Honourable senators, the explanation of this bill is very short. The sitting member wishes to have the name of the constituency changed somewhat. It is the constituency of Huron in the Province of Ontario. It so happens that part of the County of Middlesex is in that constituency, and the sitting member felt it would be a