

*Cultural Property*

sions of support from all my provincial colleagues as well as helpful comments and suggestions.

In discussing the tax incentives I had in mind at the federal level with my provincial colleagues, I suggested that they might wish to examine what tax incentives could be initiated at the provincial level, particularly in the area of inheritance taxes. I do not believe that the succession duty laws generally in force are such as to encourage people to leave collections of important works to their local institutions. Nor do they do anything to discourage heirs from selling important works outside Canada perhaps to get the best price in order to pay succession duties. I explained to provincial ministers the current British practice where an heir to an object which forms part of the national heritage is exempted from estate duty so long as the object is not sold. Since 1972, this practice has been broadened so that works of art may be accepted in lieu of estate taxes to cover works which would be a pre-eminent addition to a public collection. It is interesting that the French government has adopted similar provisions. I hope that provincial governments will examine the possibility of amending the succession duty laws where appropriate.

I would like to take a moment, Madam Speaker, to point out the important relationship that exists between dealer, collector and public institutions. The dealers sell objects to collectors. Some collectors, either following professional advice or with a well developed innate sensibility, build up collections which by their very nature and quality are of interest to our custodial institutions. I have only to cite some great Canadian benefactors to demonstrate how important their generosity has been for establishing the very foundations of the collections of many of our public institutions. Objects formerly from these private collections are now preserved so that they can be shared and appreciated by future generations of Canadians as they appear in exhibitions and are made available for research. I am thinking of the collection assembled by Lord Beaverbrook of which the Atlantic provinces are justly proud, the Adeline Van Horne bequest to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Vincent Massey gift and bequest to the National Gallery, the Sigmund Samuels bequest to the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Zacks bequest to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Institutions such as the Norman Mackenzie Art Gallery and the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatchewan, and the Glenbow Institute in Alberta, house the collections of their founders and benefactors. In British Columbia, the donation of the Koerner collection to UBC was instrumental in the decision of the federal government to allocate funds for the construction of a museum of anthropology at the university in honour of the centenary of British Columbia's entry into confederation.

I mention these examples to illustrate how institutions in all parts of Canada have not only benefited from but have been dependent on the generosity of public-spirited patrons. I believe, that all levels of government must actively facilitate this movement from the private to the public sector by taking the reasonable but necessary steps that will encourage future benefactors and philanthropy.

Responsibility for preserving the heritage must be shared between governments and it must be shared be-

[Mr. Faulkner.]

tween the public and private sectors. I have tried to explain some of the ways this can be achieved. That is why I hope the creation of a Canadian heritage endowment fund which I mentioned earlier, a fund to which corporations and individuals and institutions can make contributions, will make funds available to supplement the moneys which the government itself will be making available. Canadians must be encouraged to make gifts of money as well as objects to help preserve in Canada our heritage in cultural property.

It is important for me to stress once again, Madam Speaker, that our system of control not attempt to set up too fine a screen which, in addition to creating high administrative costs, would catch objects of minor importance. This would simply create unnecessary delays in the trade, to the detriment of normal business. Our interest lies in objects of particular quality, significance or rarity.

Bill C-33 is not intended to replace the acquisition accounts of federal or other institutions. And as the federal government provides funds for federal custodial agencies, so must other levels of government provide their own institutions with adequate budgets to increase their collections. In this way they will be better able to compete for the purchase of objects of local or secondary importance which perhaps it would be desirable to retain in Canada but which do not fulfil the conditions of national importance that are set out in this bill.

In my statement in January, 1974, I mentioned that I wanted to assure the art and antique trade in Canada, as well as collectors, that the system of control I intended to introduce in the House would be reasonable and fair; that it would be designed to secure their active co-operation and support. Experience in other countries has shown that no system of export control can be effective without the active co-operation of dealers and collectors who are in a position to frustrate even the most stringent export controls unless they are persuaded that the system is reasonable.

I should explain that many dealers first offer important works to our custodial institutions as a matter of principle. I do not think their public-spiritedness as an important group with a recognized role in the preservation of the heritage is always appreciated. Yet on occasion institutions may not have funds to take advantage of this kind of first refusal and an object may be lost to the institution and even the country. Sometimes the very existence of an important item has not been realized until too late or, more commonly, the availability and the significance of an object have been known, but not the danger that it might be exported.

If I have been gratified, Madam Speaker, by the reaction of the provinces, I have been also reassured by the reaction of many dealers and their professional associations. They recognize, as I am sure do all members and Canadians generally, that we must maintain a basically free market but that it is the duty of the state to preserve and maintain in Canada collections of the best objects of national cultural significance. What will be important for these trade interests as well as collectors is the speed with which the control system operates. I have told the many interested people who have mentioned concern about unnecessary delays that it is my intention to ensure that Bill