

*"King of Canada"*

Westminster which was so ably quoted by the hon. member for Kamouraska, the term "dominions beyond the seas" is no longer good enough for a substantial part of the population of this country for the purpose of designating Canada in the title of His Majesty the King, but should be changed to the King of Canada. Even if this resolution is adopted there may yet be a long period of time before this matter will be brought to the attention of a conference of the nations of the commonwealth.

Therefore, in the meantime, I would respectfully urge hon. members who share the views which I express at the present time, to refrain as much as possible from using, in their addresses in this house and in all their addresses in public, the word "dominion" when applied to Canada. It is so easy and so natural to say "Canada", "the government of Canada", "the parliament of Canada" or "the Canadian parliament", instead of "the Dominion of Canada" or "the dominion government", and so on. The dominion government of what; of Australia; of New Zealand; of Canada? It does not say. Some hon. members may wonder why I have these telephone directories on my desk. Looking up the telephone directories for Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec and other cities, what do we find if we look under the word "Canada"? I take the Ottawa directory, and I find: Canada Cement; Canada Dry Cleaners and Dyers; Canada Dry Ginger Ale; Canada Starch; Canada Wire and Cable Company, and so forth. Then if I look under "Canadian", I find: Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association; Canadian Congress of Labour; Canadian Feather and Mattress Company; Canadian Mercantile Agency; Canadian National Institute for the Blind. How long would it take a stranger to this country, a visitor from the United States, for instance, to find the words "government of Canada" or "Canadian government"? It would take him as long as it took me to find the same words when I first came to Ottawa. It was only after a considerable length of time that I persuaded myself that in order to find the telephone numbers of the Canadian government I had to refer to the word "dominion", but in the case of a stranger coming to this country his reaction would be that, in spite of all we say, we are still a colony.

Why that should be so I do not know. It is that way because it has always been that way. I respectfully suggest that instructions should be issued that in the next issue of the Bell Telephone directories, not only in Ottawa but all through this Canada of ours, govern-

[Mr. Arsenault.]

ment offices may be found under the heading "Canadian government" as the offices of the high commissioner for Australia may be found in this very book under the heading "Australian high commissioner", and as the high commissioner for New Zealand may be found under "New Zealand high commissioner." We are not dominioners: we are Canadians. We are not dominion citizens; we are Canadian citizens. If we are truly proud of Canada, this land of ours, and of our title of Canadians, why do we in so many instances endeavour to hide those glorious names from the sight of strangers and, what is far worse, from the eyes of our own children? And until such time as our truly Canadian patriotism is recognized and interpreted by official texts of appropriate legislation, let us in this free, autonomous and sovereign state—unfortunately without an official Canadian flag; unfortunately without a Canadian national anthem, but with a Dominion day to celebrate—when referring respectfully to our king say that His Majesty is the King of Great Britain, of Ireland and of the dominions overseas, but that at the same time, above all and in the first place, in our hearts, as it should be in our texts, His Majesty is the King of Canada.

Mr. LEON J. RAYMOND (Wright) (Translation): Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to pass up the opportunity of discussing the resolution moved by my excellent friend the hon. member for Kamouraska (Mr. Marquis). However, I intend to limit myself to a few brief remarks.

Besides, the resolution does not call for lengthy explanations. Its wording is quite clear. What does it request? It reads as follows:

That in the opinion of this house, at the next conference of the representatives of the United Kingdom and of the dominions the representatives of the Dominion of Canada should request the conference to adopt a resolution recommending to the parliament of the United Kingdom and the parliaments of the dominions that an act be passed making it lawful for His Most Gracious Majesty to make such alteration in style and titles of His Majesty, more particularly so as to include in such style and titles the words "King of Canada".

The hon. member for Kamouraska merely asks that His Majesty should be officially designated, as far as this country is concerned, by the title corresponding to Canada's true status.

Now, as regards Canada, His Majesty King George and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth are King and Queen of Canada. Indeed this country is an autonomous and sovereign nation. It is the equal of Great Britain and