

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Trade and Commerce. It was first introduced in January of 1963. The cards were at that time designed and produced.

The purpose of the trade publicity branch was to provide some kind of give-away item, not all over the world and at world fairs but at the trade and commerce exhibits at lumber shows in the United States. To date, and since the cards were first produced in January of 1963, there have been some 12 or 13 lumber shows in the United States of America at which these cards have been given away. They are designed to advertise Canadian lumber products, the fact of their excellence and of their availability in Canada.

If the hon. member complains a little that references to Canada, the quality of Canadian paper and to "Made in Canada" appear to be a little overemphasized on the cards, I can assure him that their purpose is for use on the American market, for propaganda purposes. It seems to me that, even though they date back a couple of years, this is not an unsatisfactory scheme of trade promotion. One of its great virtues is its basic cheapness. The hon. member has 100 decks and has played with them, he will have discovered that they do not last very long. The reason is their very low cost. The cost of producing one of these decks of cards in the numbers which were ordered back in January of 1963 does not much exceed the cost of paper itself.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES—EMPLOYMENT BY
ROYAL COMMISSION OF RESEARCH STAFF

Mr. Gene Rhéaume (Northwest Territories): Mr. Speaker, I raised this question not only today, when I got no answer at all—perhaps because of what you felt was the unfortunate wording of the question,—but I raised a similar question the other day and got no answer from the Prime Minister. To me at least, it seems no one in this house could take objection to this question. It relates to my contention that the bilingualism and biculturalism commission is doing an excellent job of inflaming racial animosity in this country, and that it is in the best interests of Canada for the Prime Minister to call it off and to put an end to what I, in a moment of excitement today, described as the B and B gang. When I used the word "gang" I did so in the context of a group of people who go around terrorizing, and upsetting the equilibrium of the nation, and who do so at the expense of society generally.

Any of the hon. members who listened to the radio broadcast of the B and B session in Quebec City two nights ago would surely have been reminded of the broadcasts which we hear of these "You were there" records—the sort which take us back to the Nazi rallies in Germany before the serious advance of the Nazi movement in that country, where people lost control of themselves. I for one categorically reject the impression that the radio broadcast of the proceedings at that hearing represent the feelings of the people of Quebec. They do not, and no hon. member anywhere in this house would espouse that position. However, I do espouse the position that the B and B commission has a greater divisive effect in this country today than any other single force at work, and I think that the onus is on the Prime Minister, if he is sincere—and I suspect him to be since—in his avowed purpose of unifying the country, to do this. I suggest to the Prime Minister and to the government that this is the time to place the good of the nation above the good of the Liberal party, because there are those who believe sincerely that the whole purpose of the Liberal party in the bilingualism and biculturalism commission, in the flag debate and in a few other things is to divide the country and ruin it, to pit Catholic against non-Catholic and French against non-French, and that these vehicles do this in an excellent way.

Some hon. Members: Shame.

Mr. Rhéaume: Members opposite can holler "shame" if they wish, but there is a substantial body of opinion in Canada that wants the Prime Minister to stand up and call off the bilingualism and biculturalism commission. All one needs to do, if he wants to be non-partisan, is to read editorial opinion in this country. It is to the effect that the terms of reference of this commission should be reviewed. Today we read that this commission is going to investigate the press, television and radio services of this country. One of the commissioners says that they have to go overseas, take this divisive and disruptive vehicle of theirs to every country in the world and make Canada the laughingstock of the world.

Where will it end? I suggest to the government that it is time they sincerely reviewed this matter. Recall the commission. The commission has suggested that it is prepared to submit an interim report. Now is the time for the government to have the courage to ask