

Canadian ownership. I realize, of course, that if the amendment were adopted the company would face regulations with which other companies are not faced. That brings me back to the original question. Where do we begin establishing so-called Canadian ownership and protecting the Canadian consumer? I submit that if the government had adopted some of the proposals suggested by this party, we should not now face our present dilemma.

I wish to refer to some of the things said on the subject of ownership. What I am about to quote was not said by a raving socialist. He is the vice-chairman of MacMillan Bloedel in Vancouver. He said:

• (5:50 p.m.)

We are no longer a nation of consumers quarrelling with manufacturers and retailers; no longer unions and employers pursuing separate interests; we are no longer separatists with cultural axes to grind.

We are suddenly and simply Canadians without economic allies, very much on our own, and we shall need all our intellectual resources—our plain horse sense—in business, in government and in the universities to devise measures that will defend our aspirations as effectively as the Americans, the Europeans and the Japanese defend theirs.

This was stated by R. W. Bonner, vice-chairman of MacMillan Bloedel, Vancouver.

Mr. Howard (Skeena): I have doubts about anything he says.

Mr. Skoberg: It appears from this type of quotation that even people in this position are finally being hurt by the actions of people outside this country. As long as we are not in a position to control our destiny through legislation and even the small amendment we ask to this bill, we are at the disposal of people in other countries.

We are interested in trying to bring about some type of recognition for Canada. We are not married to the amendment. If there are other substitutes, we in our party will be only too pleased to accept them. At the same time, we insist that there be some protection in writing for the Canadian people. In the bill before us there should be some type of resolution, preamble or clause to spell out that the directors of this company should be Canadian forever and a day. If this can be done, possibly we could accept this bill in so far as the CPR and Central-Del Rio are concerned. We have suggested many times there should be a modification in respect of the number of directors.

If we look at the many comments made by people across this land there is no reason to back off in demanding that there be some type of Canadian ownership. The policy of the company may be their prerogative. At the same time, the type of business that the company carries on, in so far as the protection of the Canadian people and Canadian workmen is concerned, is the prerogative of the Parliament of this country.

Canadian content is one of the main problems we have to face. Canadians all across this country ask about this. When they find there is no employment for them. Today we learned of the increase in unemployment. This question is being asked by young people on street corners and workers in automobile plants throughout the land. They are asking Parliament what it is doing to protect their

Royal Assent

Canadian heritage. We are being asked to ensure that they will have job opportunities in so far as any operation in Canada is concerned.

I noted another release with regard to the problems we face. This all goes back to the incorporation of Central-Del Rio in so far as the federal charter is concerned. I quote as follows:

The Windsor-based automobile equipment manufacturer last week was awarded a federal government incentive grant for \$381,000 to locate a plant in Sault Ste. Marie that would manufacture machine steel bases and columns.

Because of the changing atmosphere it was decided to locate the plant and carry on business across the border. Even though industrial commissioners in the Soo tried their best to get the management of the plant to reconsider their action, they were informed by the vice-president of the company that they would not move to the Soo because of economic conditions in the country.

I am sure all members are asking themselves what brought about these economic conditions in our country. In fact, what are we really doing to ensure that situations such as this—which is only one of many hundred in the last month or two—are properly dealt with?

THE ROYAL ASSENT

A message was delivered by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, as follows:

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable the Deputy Governor General desires the immediate attendance of this honourable house in the chamber of the honourable the Senate.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker with the House went up to the Senate chamber.

[Translation]

And being returned:

Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An Act to support employment in Canada by mitigating the disruptive effect on Canadian industry of the imposition of foreign import surtaxes or other actions of a like effect.

An Act to amend the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act.

Mr. Speaker: It being six o'clock, I do now leave the chair to resume same at eight o'clock.

At six o'clock the House took recess.

[English]

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.