

leaders quit". In an article by Claude Henault there is this passage:

Three members of the dissent-ridden governing council of the Company of Young Canadians announced yesterday they will demand the council be disbanded and replaced by trustees.

I should like to know whether the Secretary of State has been apprised of this information. Have submissions been made to him in this regard? Does he not think that this is an important statement? May I again refer to the *Globe and Mail* of today's date, where reference is made to Mr. Axworthy. We all know who he was. Apparently he was a government appointee to the council, a one-time aide to the former minister of transport, the hon. member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer). Mr. Axworthy has stated that it would be a travesty if the council were to continue. Does the Secretary of State know of this statement?

Mr. Bigg: He does not care.

Mr. Alexander: I know he cares, but perhaps he has not yet had an opportunity to digest the statement and to appreciate its importance and implications. I quote from the *Globe and Mail*:

Mr. Axworthy said yesterday that he, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Sullivan had written Secretary of State Gerard Pelletier asking him to scrap the council anyway.

Has the Secretary of State received that communication? I do not know whether the *Globe and Mail* is the gospel or the Bible, but I should like the minister to tell me whether he has been advised to scrap the council. I now come to the *Ottawa Journal* for today. This paper carries the headline: "Resignations, dissent, rock CYC council". Here is another quote from Mr. Johnson:

Mr. Johnson said the weekend meeting—

That is, the meeting of the council.

—was a make-or-break session for council. It had to prove to Parliament that it was capable of running the CYC.

"It failed," he said.

I should like to know whether the minister is aware of this. I think it is important not to pussyfoot in regard to this very important national problem. We must be responsible in this regard. Surely the minister realizes that the CYC is dead; and if it is not quite dead, then it must be going through its final throes of death. This has been obvious to us all over the week end.

Company of Young Canadians Act

An hon. Member: What we need is mercy killing.

Mr. Alexander: My hon. friend to the left of me says that what we need is a little mercy killing. Our party wanted the CYC killed right then and there, and we moved a motion to that effect. We knew in stating we wanted it dead that we were acting responsibly, at the same time still appreciating the involvement of youth.

Mr. Baldwin: It is not its death, but its smell that we are worried about.

Mr. Alexander: The smell is becoming quite obnoxious, and I do not know for how long the Canadian people will be able to stand it. In keeping with the policy of this party in terms of youth involvement, we have accepted the fact that the CYC has been born, unfortunate though it is. However, in light of the events and the chaotic behaviour that has led people to wonder whether this is a responsible institution, we on this side of the House must be careful of our actions. Our approach is stated in paragraph 10 of our press release.

Mr. Gilbert: Which one?

Mr. Alexander: We have only one. There is one thing about the NDP, Mr. Speaker; they do not like being chastised. They put a ridiculous motion before the House, and now they do not want me to continue, though my time is running short.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Take your time; you have 40 minutes.

Mr. Alexander: Our approach to the CYC is this:

● (9:10 p.m.)

On the contrary, we believe a fresh start, building on the experience of the past, can develop a viable and constructive outlet for youth in social action at the community level—

An hon. Member: Oh, come on Linc!

Mr. Alexander: Why don't you stand up, Joe, and get into this debate?

An hon. Member: I could do it.

Mr. Alexander: Either stand up or quit bothering me. Do you have a point of order, or what is the point? As it is stated, Mr. Speaker:

—we believe a fresh start, building on the experience of the past, can develop a viable and constructive outlook for youth in social action at