

*Company of Young Canadians Act*

was done. Even though the government of the day failed to heed our warnings, I should have thought that the example set by another organization over which parliament again has no control, namely the CBC, would have been sufficient to make the government aware of what was happening.

It has been found that organizations that are created by Parliament but are beyond the control of Parliament become infiltrated with people who wish to use public funds to promote their own political, social and economic philosophies to the exclusion of all others. This has been the case with the Company of Young Canadians; and there is plenty of evidence that the same thing has been happening, but for an even longer period, within the CBC. I submit the government should have heeded the warnings which have been sounded for a long time.

However, nothing was done about the situation until recently when we were given what were almost incredible reports about what had been taking place within the CYC. The full details are common knowledge and have been placed before the House by many members. I will not repeat them, other than to say if anyone had read about these things in a book or a comic strip or had seen them in a Mack Sennett cartoon, they would simply have laughed and said it could not possibly happen. Yet it has happened, and happened in this Parliament, and for this the government is responsible.

● (9:00 p.m.)

The Company of Young Canadians can be likened to Voltaire's description of the holy Roman empire—neither holy, Roman nor an empire. The only company I can compare the CYC with is Atlantic Acceptance. The CYC certainly is not made up of very young Canadians. It seems to be made up of rather middle-aged Canadians who are experienced, like the Russian students who come to this country. As for being Canadians, I should like to ask the Secretary of State how many of these people on the executive body of this organization are Canadians. It appears that not very many of them are. Apparently, there is one from Buffalo, one from Los Angeles and one or two recent immigrants from Europe. It appears that this is not a company, not made up of young people and not very Canadian. The Secretary of State probably does not have this information at his fingertips but before we complete the committee

stage perhaps he could obtain this information.

The question we must ask ourselves now is what is to be done? There is an amendment before us moved by the hon. member for York South. I do not think anyone in this House is averse to having young people do what they can to help out in respect of the undesirable social conditions we have in this country. We have a lot of social problems here. The way we treat our Indian and Eskimo people has become a laughing stock in other countries. This is particularly true when the Canadian representative to the United Nations sanctimoniously lectures other countries on their treatment of minorities. I remember on one occasion when our representative was doing this, Canada and Sweden got a lecture. The South African ambassador nudged me then and said: "The goody-goodies are getting it now." There are plenty of things in our country that need looking into.

All of us were young at one time. We now hear a great deal about the generation gap. I do not think it is that great. Most of us were pretty idealistic. Perhaps we have lost a little of our idealism and become blasé, if you wish. That is unfortunate because young people, though they lack a certain practicality, have ideas and want to do things. There should be no mistake about that. The impression has been created in this House that the only young people interested in taking part in this kind of organization are extremists, anarchists and the like. The impression has been created that these are the progressive people and represent the youth in Canada. That is nothing but a lot of boloney and only wishful thinking on the part of those who foster this impression.

I have attempted to bridge this generation gap by making contact with these young people. It is true there is a small group who have an interest in promoting Leninist and Marxist doctrines. I know some of my friends to the left are anxious to see these doctrines advanced but a great many of the young people in Canada do not go for this old hat approach. They know that these old-fashioned ideas are not applicable to our society. It is a gross mistake to think that the young people want to push forward these old-fashioned Marxist and Leninist doctrines. This is simply not true.

There has been an objection to having a supervisor. The hon. member for York South has objected to supervision over this body.