

such change of name shall not in any way impair, alter or affect the rights or liabilities of the corporation.

It will be noted that by clause 3 of the bill sections 2 to 7 both inclusive of the statute of 1914 are repealed and new sections substituted. This constitutes quite a change, made necessary because of the changing conditions and the growth of the Order. The repealed sections remove any foreign control from the activities of the St. John Ambulance Association and the Brigade, and the Priory of Canada is responsible for the administration and control of the work of St. John in this country.

The new section 2 deals with the right to hold property, and the new section 3 deals with trusts of property and the priory control.

The proposed section 4 names the place of the head office, which is Ottawa, in the province of Ontario, and also provides that notice must be given in writing to the Secretary of State of any change in the location of the head office, which change shall be published in the *Canada Gazette*.

Section 5 provides that members of the corporation shall be the Priory Executive Officers from time to time. Section 6 gives the corporation power to make by-laws.

The new section 7(1) gives, subject to the provisions of section 3 and the terms of any trust relating thereto, the power to hold and dispose of property, and subsection 2 retroactively removes the limitation on the value of real estate held by the corporation, which was \$50,000 in the original act.

Section 8 deals with borrowing powers, and subsection 2 restricts the corporation from entering into the businesses of banking and insurance.

The bill directs that the act shall be deemed to have come into force on June 24, 1964, which is St. John's Day, a day of significance to the Order.

The decorations of the Order are for merit, and carry with them no title.

I remember that in 1931 I was a representative for Canada at the centenary celebration of the revival of the Order in Britain, and at the meeting of the Chapter General the Sub-Prior read a message from the Prime Minister of Canada announcing that the Canadian Government had decided to exempt the Order specially from the scope of the resolution of the Canadian House of Commons, in conformity with which the King had refrained from bestowing any titles or honours on his Canadian subjects. The Queen is now the sovereign head of the Order. His Excellency, General the Right Honourable Georges Philias Vanier, D.S.O., M.C., K. St. J., C.D. is the Prior of the Order in Canada.

In 1958 the American Society of the Most Venerable Order was established in New York. I was present at an investiture in the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York on January 6, 1963 by the Lord Prior of St. John. It was an inspiring ceremony, and as a Canadian I was glad to be there to take part in the service.

At that investiture, men who are probably the charter members of the society in the United States, were invested in the Order by the Grand Prior. The emblem of the Order, as you know, is the Maltese Cross. It is an eight pointed cross, the arms of which symbolize the Christian virtues of prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude. Its points represent eight beatitudes which spring from the practice of those virtues. The whiteness of the cross is the emblem of purity.

The motto of the order, *Pro Fide*, for the Christian faith, came before *Pro Utilitate Hominum*, for the welfare of men. It was the central and constraining memory of the Christian faith that, more than any other influence, could inspire service with the spirit of chivalry and kindled charity into a fire. We are glad to see that this flame is burning brightly at the present time in Canada.

Hon. Mr. Connolly (Ottawa West): Honourable senators, we are all indebted to the honourable senator from Lunenburg (Hon. Mr. Kinley), first, for agreeing to sponsor this bill and, secondly, for telling us so much about it.

I do not intend to detain honourable senators more than a few minutes. However, this is a rather unusual bill and in my private capacity as a member of the Senate I would like to comment upon it, for it stirs my imagination, as I am sure it has stirred others on both sides of the house.

Honourable senators, I have before me the annual report of the St. John Ambulance, which is perhaps the name by which this organization is best known in Canada.

This is an example of an organization which has reverted to type, because its original purpose was to provide corporal works of mercy to people who needed them. The original establishment, according to the annual report, was set up in Jerusalem in the eleventh century, as a hospital for Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem, by a group of Benedictine monks who became known as the Brothers of the Hospital of St. John.

During the Crusades, when the forces of Europe went down to the Holy Land to try and free those holy places from the grip of the Saracen, this institution, this hospital, was the place where their wounded were cared for.

The Order grew in power, and ultimately, as the senator from Lunenburg has said, it