

*National Defence Act Amendment*

of age and is living on Somerset Street here in Ottawa.

**Mr. Mongrain:** Let me apologize by saying that perhaps he only looks like his son. I change my reference to grandson.

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** Mr. Chairman, I offer my apology to the hon. member for Trois-Rivières for my mistake in respect of the name of his riding. He is correct; its name is "Trois-Rivières". I have visited the area and have great admiration for it because of its culture, geographic location and history.

The hon. member did refer to the crown and its affect on this situation. Let me remind him that the crown has guaranteed and is the guarantee that his and my rights shall be preserved. To me there is nothing personal in the crown. It represents the power that lies within that hon. member and each of us individually and collectively as citizens of Canada. The crown means nothing more than that to me. If we allow these guarantees to be eroded we as Canadians may no longer enjoy our inherited rights. We do not know what might happen in this country as a result of Liberal erosion of our rights. It might become subject to dictatorial power which will not be to the benefit of the Canadian people as a whole.

**Mr. Mongrain:** I rise on a question of privilege.

My noble friend has attempted to insinuate that I advocate the disappearance of the crown. I have the greatest respect for the crown, as I have said, but there are conditions which arise on occasion which the Queen understands better than some of my friends on that side of the house. She in her own words has said that occasionally changes must be made and that she will accept such changes as long as they are suggested by a legal government, democratically elected.

**Mr. Herridge:** Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. Is not this type of discussion in respect of the crown and Her Majesty entirely out of place during this debate?

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** That is the exact and succinct reason I referred to the crown rather than Her Majesty. To me the bearer of the crown is not at issue. The crown itself is significant of the guarantees made to Canada in the past which exist today. I was referring to the erosion of Anglo-Saxon traditions in our forces and I think I have made my point clear. The hoots of derision by those who care nothing about these traditions mean nothing to me.

[Mr. Cowan.]

I submit that the Anglo-Saxon traditions which have been carried on by the armed forces down through the years and centuries ought not to be allowed to be eroded. For that reason I should like to move that clause 5, which stamps out the individual names of the three branches of our armed services, the Royal Canadian Navy, the Canadian Army, and the Royal Canadian Air Force, be struck from the bill.

**The Deputy Chairman:** Let me remind the hon. member that our procedure requires that he submit his proposed amendment to the Chair in writing in the proper form. In any event, I suggest to the hon. member that his intended purpose will be served in another way. He may obtain the same result by voting against the adoption of this clause.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** According to our traditions we should have a copy of this amendment.

**Mr. Forrestall:** Why do hon. members want a copy of the amendment? They have not been interested in this debate up till now?

**Mr. Alkenbrack:** I submit that clause 5 should not be included in this bill. I will write out my proposed amendment and submit it to the Chair forthwith.

**The Deputy Chairman:** May I suggest to hon. members that the proper course of action would be to vote in favour or against the clause.

**Mr. Churchill:** We want to speak in reference to this clause.

**Mr. Forrestall:** Mr. Chairman, while the amendment is being prepared in the proper form, perhaps I as one member for Halifax would be remiss if I did not remind hon. members and Canadians as a whole of the history of the Royal Canadian Navy. Let me remind hon. members of the great contribution the Royal Canadian Navy has made to the Canadian way of life.

● (3:50 p.m.)

I have in front of me some notes prepared on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the R.C.N. which occurred some seven years ago in 1960. The Royal Canadian Navy came into being in 1910 as a result of the promulgation of the Naval Service Act on May 4 of that year. It was a natural step in our evolution and progress from the wilderness to full nationhood and the acceptance of our responsibility not only in terms of our own nation but in terms of the common safety of man everywhere.