

Hon. Royce Frith (Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I believe that a Canadian of the stature of Bruce Hutchison certainly deserves to have his passing noted in the records of the Senate and to have the Senate record something of his distinguished contribution to Canadian life. I know I share with many senators the pleasure of having an honoured place on my library shelves for two of his books, and I think it particularly fitting that his Senate eulogy, if I may call it that, should be delivered by Senator Doyle. I thank him for doing so in such an eloquent and touching manner.

• (1410)

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Hon. Raymond J. Perrault: Honourable senators, the late Bruce Hutchison was a true conscience of the nation; he was a British Columbian, but above all he was a great Canadian.

I served in the British Columbia legislature for a number of years. On the wall of the Press Gallery there is a picture of the young Bruce Hutchison, raw as a reporter could be. He soon acquired a fabulous reputation for veracity, for his ability to lift his sights above the politically petty and the mundane, and for his ability to direct his thoughts, through his writing, to the basic challenges to the province of British Columbia and to the nation from coast to coast. He had a true love of his province; a true love of this country.

Bruce Hutchison had many opportunities to relocate in Toronto or Montreal or New York. He had many, many offers, but he consistently said "No. British Columbia is my home, and I can do my creative work and live a good life in this province," which he did. We were very proud of him.

Bruce Hutchison never regarded his role as a media person as a licence to attempt to destroy the reputations of politicians by unearthing scandals or digging around in the darkness. He was a positive force for good; a perceptive observer of the human condition. The hurried and frantic press scrum was not for Bruce Hutchison. Rather, he was an observer of facts. He would put those facts on paper and then, after studying the facts, offer his own views as a good British Columbian, as a good Canadian.

He regarded his vocation as one imposing upon him a responsibility to be a builder, to be a member of the building crew rather than a member of the wrecking gang. He will be missed at this time in our history as a nation, when we are determining in precisely what direction we will go. Somehow, I feel certain that, in another dimension, Bruce Hutchison will continue to help us keep this great country united and strong.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS IN GALLERY

MEMBERS OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: I wish to draw the attention of honourable senators to the presence in our gallery of some [Senator Doyle.]

distinguished visitors. They are members of the Eastern Caribbean inter-parliamentary delegation who are visiting Canada under the auspices of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. I have interrupted these proceedings because these ladies and gentlemen have a tight schedule and might have had to leave the Senate before I had an opportunity, on your behalf, to welcome them.

Present in the delegation are the Honourable Wilfred St. Clair-Daniel, Speaker of the legislature of St. Lucia and senior Speaker in the Commonwealth; the Honourable Ivan Buchanan, Speaker of the legislature of St. Kitts; and the Honourable Montgomery Maule, Speaker of the legislature of St. Vincent.

Among the non-Speaker parliamentarians with us today are Honourable Kenny Lalsingh, MP, of the legislature of Grenada; Mrs. Ruby Wade-Bramble, MLC, of the legislature of Montserrat; Senator Winston LeRoy Inniss of Barbados; and the Honourable Walwyne Brewley of the legislature of the British Virgin Islands. The delegation is accompanied by Mr. George Brancker, LL.B., Clerk of Parliament of Barbados and Secretary to the delegation.

Hon. Senators: Hear, hear!

Ladies and gentlemen of the Eastern Caribbean, on behalf of honourable senators, I am pleased to welcome you to our country and to our chamber.

THE CONSTITUTION

REFERENDUM QUESTION—TACTICS OF GOVERNMENT LEADER

Hon. Philippe Deane Gigantès: Honourable senators, before the gracious greeting by the Speaker of our visitors in the gallery, we were speaking of someone whose death will be much regretted. I would like to pass from that to someone who is very regrettable. I mean the Leader of the Government in this chamber, who does not seem to have learned a lesson from the Meech Lake experience, where his bullying tactics made the passing of that accord difficult. There he was yesterday, trying to browbeat first of all Senator Wood and then me into declaring things that we had already declared; hectoring, standing up there like a sort of petty school master, trying to frighten his colleagues.

An Hon. Senator: Pit bull.

Senator Hastings: Badgering.

Senator Gigantès: Badgering, that's right. He has not learned anything. He is L'exécuteur des basses œuvres in this place, just as Harvie Andre is in the other place. I bring up Harvie Andre because he attacked one of our colleagues, Senator Hays. Senator Hays appeared on *Canada AM*, saying that he had some problems with this accord. Then up pops Mr. Andre and he says, "Oh well, he was in the Senate during the National Energy Program and he did nothing to help Alberta." Senator Hays was not in the Senate at that time, and this is the