

Canadian Policy on Broadcasting

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. member resume his seat. There is not perfect order in the house at this time, but I am sure the hon. member will be heard by the minister and the Chair if he asks his question now.

Mr. Scott (Danforth): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am trying to ask a question in my usual unprovocative manner.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Scott (Danforth): I should like to ask the minister whether, in view of Canada's continuing housing crisis and in view of the coming conference, the government has given any consideration to our request that members of opposition parties have a right to attend that conference if only in the capacity of observers.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, in reply to the part time member for Danforth—

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Nicholson:—I will say that his suggestion will be considered.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. May I as a corollary suggest to hon. members that this type of appellation is not in order. I suggest it is very close to being offensive to call a minister a part time minister or an hon. member a part time member. I suggest that all hon. members keep this in mind.

Mr. Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, when I call the minister a part time minister I do not wish to suggest that I am casting any personal reflection whatsoever on him. We all know he is the Minister of Labour. We have objected to the fact that we do not have a full time minister of housing. It is no reflection by me, nor would I wish it to be so taken, upon the minister himself.

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Raymond Rock (Jacques-Cartier-Lasalle): Mr. Speaker, concerning the by-election in Nova Scotia, has the Secretary of State received any information on bribery charges?

Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State): Not yet, Mr. Speaker.

BANKRUPTCY**INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Henri Latulippe (Compton-Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Justice.

Under the former ministers of justice, the Bankruptcy Act was to be revised. Can the minister tell the house what progress has been made in this regard?

Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, the matter of bankruptcies now comes under the Registrar General.

[English]

PENITENTIARIES**REQUEST FOR EARLY CONVENING OF JOINT COMMITTEE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Solicitor General. Now that the other place has reconvened would the minister give his support to the joint committee on penitentiary matters being called together at an early date, as I understand that both co-chairmen would support an early meeting?

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): Mr. Speaker, following an earlier appeal by the hon. member I contacted the chairmen and was given assurance that the committee would be convened in the very near future.

BROADCASTING**IMPLEMENTATION OF CANADIAN POLICY**

The house resumed, from Wednesday, November 1, consideration of the motion of Miss LaMarsh for the second reading of Bill No. C-163, to implement a broadcasting policy for Canada, to amend the Radio Act in consequence thereof and to enact other consequential and related provisions.

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Mr. Speaker, I should like to summarize briefly a few of the things I said on this subject before the debate was adjourned on Wednesday. I referred to the new broadcasting act having in clause 2 (g) (iv) a reference to national unity. This is what the clause says: the national broadcasting service should... contribute to the development of national unity and provide for a continuing expression of Canadian identity;