

*Business of Supply*

contribution to the debate, and how to illustrate it through television or radio? The question certainly calls for consideration but I do know that the solution will be a very difficult one.

The party in power, perhaps in view of the fact that it already has quite an unusual star in the person of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), might think that it would be advisable. However, the program should be divided into parts. One part of the program would be devoted to the young people, another probably to the space travel on which the leader of the Progressive Conservative party (Mr. Stanfield) would appear.

In fact, the most popular portion of the program and which would certainly have the highest rating, would be that reserved for the remarks of the leader of the Ralliement Cr ditiste (Mr. Caouette). Then we are sure that other members would be discriminated against since the leader of the Ralliement Cr ditiste would get the highest rating.

So, taking all this into account, it is very difficult to say what we can do at the moment. It is worth considering so as to do justice to all hon. members.

As I said earlier, we are all doing our best according to the limitations set by the rules.

Just imagine, for instance, television cameras covering the house at this very moment. The people would say: Where are all the members? What are they doing? The television public would suspect the members of taking it easy, whereas some of them are working in their office or attending committee hearings. In fact, the day is by far too short for us to complete our task.

So, when we come to think of all these details, I suggest we should seriously consider the possibility of having the debates of the house on television. Everybody seems to agree. However, we would not want to remain under the spotlights all the time of the broadcasting period.

[English]

**Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, I would have congratulated the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin) more unqualifiedly in bringing forward this motion were it not for the narrow, petty partisanship with which he began his remarks. I will say only that I do not think anyone, even the hon. member for Peace River (Mr. Baldwin), seriously thinks that by bringing the television cameras

[Mr. Matte.]

in here we will prevent members both of the government and opposition appearing on television or radio outside the house. He sounded like a latterday Luddite who wanted to destroy the machines and the methods that are being used. I do not think we should try to put any kind of gag on the press.

**An hon. Member:** They will be a little more careful outside.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** As the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) knows—

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** I would like the courtesy of being permitted to continue my speech.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** I do not know if there is any courtesy but—

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** The hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis) referred to the fact that ministers go outside and make remarks. But so do opposition members who state their own version of events. This has happened before and will happen again even if television is brought into the house.

**Mr. Lundrigan:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I was going to address a remark to the hon. minister but he cut me off absolutely. I do not think he would be in favour of television in the house because—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** I suppose if one were to televise a kindergarten, the hon. member would be a prime candidate for it.

It seems to me that the proposal brought forward by the hon. member for Peace River is quite reasonable. Broadcasting, by television and radio, of our proceedings is a possibility that frankly we ought not ignore. It would be my view that this is a question which can and should be discussed by the new standing committee on procedure and organization. I think the hon. member for Peace River would agree, however, that there are and have been other matters of greater priority for consideration by that committee, particularly the matter dealing with the procedures of the house. It must be the first concern of the house, and the committee on procedure and organization, to ensure that our procedures are enabling us to do our work as well as possible. Thereafter, I expect that the house will want to ask the Standing Committee on Procedure and Organization to