

*Company of Young Canadians Act*

government in its wish to expedite this matter will conclude, in light of the events which have occurred over the week end, that we cannot allow ourselves to sit still while there is every possibility that such actions will continue.

I listened with amazement to the motion which was moved by the New Democratic Party. With all respect to them, I do not know where they have been during the time the actions of the company were considered by us and evidence was adduced.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Alexander:** Unless something has happened which is outside my knowledge, a comptroller has been appointed through the intervention of the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier), and has been functioning since 1968. So there is somebody looking after the money, in any event. How the NDP can have its cake and eat it too is beyond me. They are trying to say, "Let us have an interim financial administrator with no time limit set." What really astonishes me is the implication that this interim administrator is to have no powers whatever. We on this side certainly take issue with them on that point.

Mr. Speaker, if I had been here in 1966 I would probably have voted for the bill. After all, it set out principles which were admirable in themselves; it was in keeping with the theme of youth, with the need for the poor throughout the nation having a voice, for action on behalf of the Indians, the blacks in Nova Scotia, the Métis, the poor in the Atlantic provinces and in the urban centres. We wanted youth to be involved in these things. I would have voted for the legislation for another reason—the involvement of youth in my election campaign. In my campaign one found the vigour and the enthusiasm of youth working with the experience of the mature, and as a result of this kneading together we were successful. Some people in Hamilton West did not like it; I do not want to say it was the Liberals. What I am really trying to say is that here were responsible people acting in a responsible way, within the framework of our democratic institutions, to achieve a desired result.

The CYC also had principles, and there is no question that they were commendable. It also had powers with respect to the achievement of these aims. Perhaps I might read a few of them. They had the power to engage in community development work in the rural areas, power to carry out programs to widen

[Mr. Alexander.]

the social and economic opportunities of young people who leave school before completing their schooling, power to initiate recreational programs for young people where such facilities are not available. There were a host of other objects that were ideal in nature.

• (9:00 p.m.)

All of us, particularly those who were members of the House at the time, thought they were the type of objects to which youth would be attracted so they could go out and do their "thing" in a responsible way. We had a golden opportunity for serious and responsible involvement. But what happened, Mr. Speaker? The vocal minority in Canada, which exists in the United States, England, Europe and Africa, took over and said, "We cannot work within the existing framework of the so-called establishment; we must be on our own and do our 'thing' in our own way".

Let me tell the House about the latest thing that they want to do in their own way. I quote the *Globe and Mail*, today's issue, which has a report dealing with the CYC's latest project of communal experimentation. The article reads, in part:

At least 1,000 people in Metro are taking part in the communal experiment, the woman said. In addition to the group on the island, there are others in the Spadina, College and King Street areas.

In Ottawa, Mr. Williams had said that about 300 people were taking part in the experiment... "and that members considered themselves 'the new natives' and were 'pioneering'; a life style for all."

I do not want to be included in that life style, Mr. Speaker, and I think I am safe in saying that the vast majority of the Canadian people do not want to be involved in this new experimentation. What has been the result of CYC activity over the past three years? I do not want to repeat the evidence that was adduced, because we are all familiar with it; but let me summarize it and refer to some of the nouns that were put on the record. There were charges of violence, subversion, illegality, incompetency, social action that was designed to break down existing systems. What was a dream of the former prime minister, which was acceptable to all Canadians at the time, has become an unacceptable nightmare for many Canadians and parliamentarians.

What do the headlines say today about this acceptable dream of the past? On the first page of today's *Telegram* appears the heading in large type: "Trusteeship demand as three