

all candour, do we do? Do we move into a delegation of Canadians from the Baltic States and say, "Yes, we will declare war on the Soviet Union"? We cannot, in fact, do that, although we know that the things which were imposed upon those people were grievous and terrible, and that not all the perfumes of Araby can blot them out in our recollection.

● (1530)

I would say to the honourable senator in reference to provincial consultations and I have, I think, been known as a Dominion rights man for a long time—that this government, if it has faults—and I am not going to catalogue them, let alone admit them—is not given to failing to consult the provincial authorities. I think he may rest content that these consultations have taken place.

With regard to one of the specific things he mentioned, a problem arises, as I see it, when a group from one country goes to another and purports to speak for that country as representative of a part, or even the whole of its population. Naturally we ourselves welcome Atlantic House in London, and Quebec House in Paris, and Ontario House, and so on. This has been going on for many years. However, as the Honourable Paul Martin used to say in the other place, these things are all negotiated and arranged under one umbrella. In other words, external affairs are the responsibility of the dominion government. I use that rather quaint expression "dominion government," which certain people do not like, but to which Dr. Eugene Forsey, if he were here, would say, "Hear, hear." I think that is of the essence here.

I congratulate Senator Thompson, who has a better Scottish accent than I have, and I envy him in that regard—

**Senator Thompson:** I think you should be saying "Irish."

**Senator Macquarrie:** I say it is Scottish, but I am trying to flatter you. A Thompson who is an Irishman perplexes me, but I still have a great regard for the honourable senator.

Honourable senators, there would be no point in our inviting the distinguished experts from the Department of External Affairs to appear before the committee if I answer the questions before they arrive. To do so would be, to use Senator Roblin's phrase, an act of supererogation. I commend this bill to your favourable consideration.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time.

#### REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

**Senator Macquarrie** moved that the bill be referred to the Standing Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Motion agreed to.

### APPROPRIATION BILL NO. 2, 1979-80

#### SECOND READING

The Senate resumed from Tuesday, December 11, the debate on the motion of Senator Doody for the second reading

[Senator Macquarrie.]

of Bill C-29, for granting to Her Majesty certain sums of money for the public service for the financial year ending March 31, 1980.

**Senator Langlois:** Honourable senators, we are grateful to the sponsor of this bill in this chamber, our new colleague Senator Doody, for his lucid explanation of its main features. This appropriation act provides for the expenditures proposed by supplementary estimates (B) laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1980. These estimates were duly examined by the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance with officials of the program branch of the Treasury Board, and Mr. John C. Smirle, manager, applications and standards, from the Department of Communications. The committee's report was tabled in this chamber on November 29 last.

Supplementary estimates (B), totalling \$1,031 million, are composed of budget expenditures of which \$600 million are statutory items and \$392 million represent funds for which Parliament is being asked to provide new authority. The non-budgetary expenses, that is to say, loans, investments and advances, total \$39 million to be voted. The total of these two last items of \$392 million and \$39 million respectively is \$431 million, representing the amount to be voted by Parliament in this bill. The total estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1980, are now increased to \$54,946 million, which amount exceeds by \$680 million the total anticipated estimates in the federal expenditure plan for the year.

Here I digress for a moment for the purpose of drawing the attention of honourable senators to a misprint in the third paragraph of the report of the National Finance Committee, where I find the following sentence:

The total Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1980 are not increased to \$54,946 million.

Obviously the word "not" should be "now."

The major items of these supplementary estimates (B) which are to be voted by Parliament are as follows:

- (1) \$120 million for additional home insulation;
- (2) \$63 million for the Department of National Defence to cover increased contributions to NATO;
- (3) \$20 million for additional assistance to the shipbuilding industry;
- (4) \$30 million to increase the limit in the petroleum compensation revolving fund; and
- (5) \$21 million to the Cape Breton Development Corporation for capital expenditures and rehabilitation and development of its coal and railway operations.

On the other hand, the major items of the \$600 million representing statutory items are: \$297 million for additional payments to provinces; \$100 million for additional costs of servicing the public debt; \$53 million for income security programs such as old age security; and \$60 million for additional election expenses due to the general election held last spring.