

Mr. Crosby: Whatever happened to Canadianization?

Hon. Francis Fox (Minister of Communications): Madam Speaker, the hon. member has raised a number of questions arising from some actions which have been taken fairly recently in matters dealing with the over-all broadcasting strategy which we are reviewing at the moment. It is quite obvious that since we have, indeed, asked a committee of eminent Canadians in the cultural field led, by Mr. Lou Applebaum from Toronto, and Mr. Jacques Hebert, to undertake a comprehensive review of federal cultural policy, that our over-all broadcasting policy review is subject to the publication of that report.

● (1200)

That group will be reporting initially within the next two weeks to give Canadians a report on what they have heard during hearings across the country. They will then be submitting a second report making specific recommendations. Those recommendations should be made public perhaps in March or April next year. We will then be reviewing broadcast policy in the light of the recommendations we will be receiving from that committee.

The hon. member also raised a question about the FCC. I should point out to the hon. member that the FCC decision to allow trans-border traffic, both television and business signals, is subject to the agreement of both governments.

TRANS-BORDER TRANSMISSION OF DATA

Mr. Mark Rose (Mission-Port Moody): Madam Speaker, I do not know what the people of Canada are going to do while we wait for that cultural policy, because it is going to be a long time.

On the business side of it can the minister assure the House that he will not enter into any agreement with the Americans on trans-border data flows until he has a chance to study the footprints of the various systems, both in the U.S. and Canada, which are entirely different? The U.S. satellites hit our major population while Canadian satellite footprints do not hit the large business centres in the United States. Will he study the implications for job loss and all the other aspects of this kind of proposal coming from the satellite business system, which are immense? The American multinational corporations represent U.S. interest and not Canadian interests.

Hon. Francis Fox (Minister of Communications): Madam Speaker, the answer is yes, of course. That is one of the reasons why we are not rushing to change the 1972 agreement entered into between Canada and the United States. We want to ensure that, if there is any change in that agreement, for instance a change that would bring equalization of viewing opportunities across the country, the legitimate interests of Canada are taken into consideration, and that a good part of the revenues which flow out of the exchange of radio and television communications signals between both countries con-

tinues to accrue to Canadians, and continues to ensure a good base for jobs in the Canadian telecommunications industry.

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GREY CUP GAME, 1981

CONGRATULATIONS TO PARTICIPATING TEAMS

Mr. Bill Yurko (Edmonton East): Madam Speaker, I rise on a matter of personal privilege. On Sunday in Montreal the Edmonton Eskimos and the Ottawa Rough Riders meet in the 1981 Grey Cup Game. It has become a great spectacle when Canadians join together in spirit by kicking a football rather than each other.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Yurko: Therefore, I am sure that all members of this House join with me today in congratulating members of the Ottawa Rough Riders and the Edmonton Eskimos football teams for their achievement in having won their respective divisions. We wish both teams well as they participate in this annual Grey Cup event, which has become a symbol of our sense of national unity.

I want to say that if I had not said something on this matter my son, who is attending the game, threatened that I would be used as the football!

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Walter Baker (Nepean-Carleton): Madam Speaker, as a representative of the national capital area in which the Ottawa Rough Riders have their home, and in the spirit of the words expressed by the hon. member for Edmonton East (Mr. Yurko), and driving out of my soul all the partisanship I can for the moment, I want to associate myself completely with the remarks of the hon. member and to invite other hon. members to associate themselves with this sentiment in the usual way.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Madam Speaker: I got the message from the House a long time ago that where sports were concerned I have to be extremely tolerant! I know the House wants to express its feelings by applauding both the Edmonton Eskimos and the Ottawa Rough Riders.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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POINT OF ORDER

MR. DEANS—S.O. 43 MOTION OF MR. FULTON—REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE VOTE

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.