

outlined I am going to vote for this amendment. I should like to see the whole onus placed on the publisher; but first let the publisher have an opportunity to clean house.

**Hon. Mr. Paterson:** If the publisher is located in the United States, what are you going to do?

**Hon. Mr. Davies:** This does not deal with publishers in the United States. The publishers here import the mats from the United States, and print and publish the comics here. These comics are not published in the United States.

**Hon. Mr. Nicol:** Honourable senators, in discussing this amendment we must bear in mind what was said in committee this morning. All the publishers of these crime comics are centred in Toronto or vicinity. If the amendment proposed by the honourable senator from Toronto-Trinity (Hon. Mr. Roebuck) were adopted, the only people who in future could possibly be prosecuted under this law would be the publishers. The minister stated this morning that in October, when this bill came before another house, he told that house that this bill would be made a public bill. The people of this country had ample time to study the matter and to make representations, but they did not do so. The bill was passed in its present form after consultations between the minister and the Attorneys General of the provinces. Therefore, this bill not only comes to us with the approval of another place but with the approbation of the Attorney General of every province except Ontario. The Ontario Attorney General did not disapprove; he only said that he wanted to consider it further.

Honourable senators, if we accept the amendment before us, we will be putting aside the wish of every province except Ontario. In the circumstances, I do not think that would be a fair way to treat the bill. After all, the witnesses who came before us this morning talked of an industry that was 100 per cent American. That is what they said. They said that every crime comic published by these houses was published from documents, plates or mats from the United States. Two of the largest publishers of such crime comics across the border have opened up branches in Canada for the purpose of producing their own mats or manuscripts. This means that the Canadian publishers of crime comics are not publishing original works of Canadians. No Canadian artist or writer is employed, so what interest have we in Canada in helping or furthering such things?

Some years ago Canada decided to spend a few millions of dollars for a Canadian radio network so that we could develop a true Canadian spirit. Are we not just as interested in having Canadian literature for our children and older folks? I think we should be more interested in developing a purely Canadian literature that suits our people, than in protecting a literature that is imported, 100 per cent, from a foreign country.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** My honourable friend objects to bringing in the mats from the United States. He himself is a publisher, and I would ask if he did not bring in his main press from the United States.

**Hon. Mr. Dupuis:** That has nothing to do with it.

**Hon. Mr. Nicol:** Honourable senators, I think the learned member from Toronto-Trinity has enough solid argument without bringing personal matters into this discussion. His argument would be much stronger if he made use of logic instead of personalities. My friend knows very well that that there are only two countries—the United States and Great Britain—from which presses can be imported. As a matter of fact, at the present time you cannot import presses from Great Britain; you import them from the United States.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** And quite properly.

**Hon. Mr. Nicol:** Yes.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** I did not want to be personal or imply any criticism of the honourable gentleman from Bedford for bringing in a press; but I should like to inquire what is the distinction between bringing in a press and bringing in mats.

**Hon. Mr. Nicol:** There is a great deal of difference between bringing in a press which will publish good, sound Canadian literature, and bringing in printed matter that is prepared in the United States. If my honourable friend cannot see the difference, I think it is useless for me to argue the point.

I will vote against the amendment because I am in favour of developing in this country a true Canadian literature and a true Canadian spirit. Even though this bill may impose some hardship on some people—which I do not believe it will—I would go a long way in supporting it if I thought it would have the effect of keeping out of this country printed matter that does not tend to develop a proper Canadian spirit amongst our youth.