

I do believe, under the circumstances, it would be a risk well taken.

I was delighted to hear Senator Marshall quote our distinguished leader. I would quote you another statement from another distinguished senator, the Right Honourable Arthur Meighen, speaking on April 13, 1925. He said:

The story of a nation's heroes is the fountain from which it draws the wine of its later life. There is no inspiration that quickens the ambition of youth, stimulates public service and deepens love of country like the memory of great men who have gone.

**Hon. Senators:** Hear, hear.

On motion of Senator Frith, for Senator Godfrey, debate adjourned.

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### SUPPORT AND GOVERNMENT POLICY—DEBATE CONTINUED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the inquiry of the Honourable Senator Marsden calling the attention of the Senate to the importance of research and development in every province and territory and the need for caution and sensitivity in the realignments of support, and of policy by government, which relates to research and development.—(*Honourable Senator Frith*).

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators, I made reference to this order yesterday and have since spoken to the sponsor of this inquiry, Senator Marsden. There is no evidence that any other senator wishes to speak on this inquiry, but she would like to speak to it again, and that would have the effect of closing the debate.

Therefore, I would ask that the inquiry be adjourned in her name, and if in the meantime some other senator wishes to speak, I am sure she will yield and not close the debate. Otherwise, she means to close the debate within the next week or so.

On motion of Senator Frith, for Senator Marsden, debate adjourned.

● (1500)

[*Translation*]

## POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

### NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO STUDY GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES ON POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

**Hon. Fernand-E. Leblanc,** pursuant to Notice of Motion of Wednesday September 25, 1985, moved:

That the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance be authorized to examine and report upon the activities of the Government of Canada in its financial support of post-secondary education and vocational training; and

That the Committee have power to engage the services of such professional, clerical and other personnel as may be necessary for the purpose of the said examination.

He said: Honourable senators, I am pleased to comment briefly on that notice of motion, recommending that the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance examine the activities of the Government of Canada, its financial support of post-secondary education and vocational training.

As honourable senators will know, the committee in its provisional report dated May 30, 1985, stressed the fact that the role of the Canadian government in educational matters raises a great many questions. The report stated that committee members were considering a more in-depth study of the matter.

Since then, a number of events have convinced me that, more than ever, such a study is needed.

First, members of the Committee on National Finance recently gave their full support to that initiative.

Moreover, Senators Bell and Doody responded to the report submitted by the Committee on National Finance by urging the latter to undertake such a study.

Later, Senator Marsden, while calling the Senate's attention to government policies in the area of research and development—as mentioned earlier—raised quite a number of questions more or less linked with the proposed reference.

Finally, the Royal Commission on Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada, in its report of September 5, 1985, voiced many reservations concerning the matter of post-secondary education.

The Commission stated, and I quote:

The Commission agrees with its positions and is altogether convinced that the Government of Canada has an essential role to play in post-secondary education and vocational training.

Honourable senators, that quotation is taken from Volume II, page 819.

The Commission has submitted specific recommendations that differ slightly from the current provisions of federal support to that sector, because it felt, and again I quote:

All normal fiscal transfer mechanisms have been tried and found unsatisfactory. We therefore recommend that Canadians seriously consider the possibility of having more comprehensive reforms.

That quotation is taken from Volume II, page 832.

In view of the need to fully consider the findings of the Royal Commission in that respect, and the support given by some honourable senators to the inception of that study by the Committee on National Finance, I urge this house to support the motion.

If the honourable senators do give their approval, I would propose having the hearings start as soon as possible, in order that a report may be tabled within the shortest possible time frame and the recommendations might influence the reform of