

*Telesat Canada Act*

Still because of this everlasting question of provincial autonomy, which costs a lot to the people of Quebec, and because of the stubbornness of the Ottawa government in interpreting the constitution in its own way, the Canadian people, who are ignored, are always the ones in the end who foot the bill of such loss of time and of those problems that remain in abeyance instead of being solved.

That brings me, Mr. Speaker, to the following basic point: Why does not this bill provide for participation, financial and otherwise, by the provinces, especially Quebec?

It seems to me a province like Quebec could take advantage of the establishment of those satellites—which would be simply extraordinary—by securing for itself a channel of its own, in order to provide educational programs and others in accordance with its people's ideals, which would enable all French speaking Canadians in this country to keep in touch with the province of Quebec.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the province of Quebec could at least double its influence at the national level, assert itself and reveal its ideals, folklore, language, talents, difficulties and needs to all Canadians.

Has the federal government made proposals to this end to the province of Quebec? I would be pleased to see the minister give a sincere answer to that question. If the government did make proposals, what did Quebec answer, if it did answer? In fact, Mr. Speaker, very often, unfortunately, the Quebec government does not give any answer to the proposals made by the federal government, as it happened in the case of the federal parks.

I wish to conclude my remarks on the social and cultural aspect of this bill in order to deal briefly with another point about which I feel very strongly, namely the principle of the Corporation itself.

We shall create, by passing Bill C-184, a corporation that is not necessarily a crown corporation nor an agency corporation. It is essentially a non agency corporation but, what is more, a joint economy corporation.

Moreover, one finds there the system well known in Europe as the tripartite representation within a state corporation. In this case, the federal government, private enterprise and the people, would be the three governing factors of this new corporation.

Such a tripartite representation, Mr. Speaker, is based—from what I know—on the idea that the bringing together of the various interests involved, particularly those of the

[Mr. Fortin.]

personnel and the users, brings automatically about a compromise in the general interest.

As we know, this method of setting up of a government corporation is very popular in France. Such a formula is used to a certain extent in Canada but it should be used increasingly, since the people and private enterprise participate in it more fully than in the case of Crown corporations, known as the "State control solution", which involves the appointment of civil servants subjected to the administrative control of the minister, and consequently such a corporation becomes the economic and cultural instrument of the government.

Mr. Speaker, Telesat Canada, which we are seeking to set up here, will not altogether have a legal status—the minister does not say this but only that it is a complex matter—will not really enjoy a tripartite representation and will constitute a solution by State control. As we know, Mr. Speaker, from a legal point of view, there are three methods of setting up a corporation, the third of which being called the "autonomist solution", and I want to elaborate a little on this.

Telesat Canada will be, as one might say, a mixture of the tripartite representation and the autonomist solutions.

There are two points in that solution. The first is that we must prevent a firm from being managed in a poor capitalistic way and manage it like a private firm. That last solution was adopted in Canada several years ago. It is based on political and legal Anglo-Saxon principles according to which great powers are readily granted, and the results assessed afterwards.

Legally, it is so to speak, and I wanted to come to that, the machinery of the establishment of the trust.

In other words, what is important is the source of capital and not so much the fact, though this is very significant, that the individual elected or appointed director of a public Canadian firm must be a Canadian citizen.

What is important is the source. However, when we read in Schedule A of Bill C-184 the names of the firms concerned—since it is a three party representation—we may conclude that there are some private interests involved. If we take into account which firms are willing to be included in that company, we realize that most of the interests are foreign interests. And if that company is to be established as it is described in the bill, "Telesat