

International Development Research Centre

supervision of the centre. I think it would be an egregious error to make any appointments under this clause.

I was delighted to hear the minister say in a forthright way—may I interject that forthrightness is a rare thing in a Minister, and one is delighted with it not only in view of the subject but also because it is there—that he will not make any appointments. I hope that at the earliest opportunity we will be able to discuss the whole question of a parliamentary member being appointed to boards of crown corporations to see whether this makes any sense at all.

I look to this centre to make a really valuable contribution to the problem of development in the less developed countries of the world. It will be able to do that only if it is a genuinely international body, if its entire orientation is toward developing countries and not toward Canada or any other developed country. In my estimation it will do this only if the board of governors includes in high positions, as well as among the membership of the board, fair representation from the developing countries. It will do this only if the priorities that the centre sets for itself are priorities that are agreed upon by the developing countries.

Finally, I think it will do the job of being a real stimulus to development in our sister countries that are not as fortunate as we are if much of its work is done in those developing countries—obviously, not all of them—and done in collaboration with institutes of research and development in developing areas of the world. It is with that approach and with that orientation that we enthusiastically supported this idea and that the committee of the House accepted some other changes to the original draft that sought to underline the international character of the centre, some of which changes I brought to the attention of the committee. I hope that the entire approach of the centre will be along that line.

There have been reports that the government is asking a Dr. Hopper to become president of the centre. I am informed by people who know him that he is a very able and sensitive person. I hope that he will agree to serve and that the government will be able to persuade him to do so. I hope that in its choice of vice-president and members of the board, the government will be as careful in its selection as the suggestion that the government is seeking Dr. Hopper for the job of president indicates that it is being careful in filling that position.

I do not intend to support the amendment to clause 10 of the bill. Although I think it is an undesirable amendment, I do not intend to take the time of the House by suggesting a recorded vote. I will yell "On Division" loud enough for Your Honour to hear me; I do not want to hold up passage of the bill.

As to the other amendment, it is obviously a desirable one. It achieves the same purpose that the original clause 19 had in mind, and does so in language that contains nothing offensive. Therefore, I certainly support the amendment on behalf of my colleagues. I sit down now, saying that if the Senate keeps on pushing itself into legislation in this way, the time may come soon to start an anti-Senate campaign that will be even more vigorous than it has been for several years.

Mr. David Anderson (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, I also spoke earlier, before the bill was sent to the Senate, and I will try and restrain myself from repeating what I said at that time.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Hear, hear.

Mr. Anderson: The President of the Privy Council (Mr. Macdonald) obviously heartily agrees with that approach.

The first amendment that the Senate has introduced is basically a tidying up amendment, and once more we can thank the Senators for taking the time and trouble to correct something that perhaps the committee of this House overlooked and should have picked up earlier. Indeed, this is the type of thing—a very small thing, I might add, but nevertheless precisely the sort of thing—that the Senate is meant to do. While I personally have doubts about the value of the Senate, it is nevertheless nice to know that, at least in this regard, Senators are doing their job.

Mr. Lewis: They have nothing else to do.

Mr. Anderson: In any event, I accept the amendment quite happily.

The second amendment gives me a great deal of trouble. Since I feel that the hon. member for York South (Mr. Lewis), who spoke before me, expressed himself very well, I should like to adopt his approach. He pointed out that while he has no intention of forcing this matter to another vote which might send this particular bill back to the Senate, the amendment is nevertheless a bad one. I agree.

We have a curious situation here. A committee of this House put in an amendment to