

Canadian Policy on Broadcasting

of the C.B.C. producers and exponents of weird ideas.

In spite of this group I must say that the broadcasting corporation has done a fine job for Canada in portraying the best of our centennial celebrations. I understand that this happened due to a highly effective C.B.C. headquarters committee which had its way in centennial programming. Such positive programs and positive attitudes must be retained. What I am concerned about is the small, mischievous or misguided minority who all too often gain control of prime broadcasting hours in order to air controversial and degrading programs which can only be interpreted and understood by viewers as a challenge to the very family and moral fibres which in the past have made this nation of ours great. No better example of that can be found than the plays all too often produced by the C.B.C. In the theatre they are known as the kitchen sink variety. What is their message except the degradation of human character, the break-up of or contempt for family life, and the loss of moral values?

What do most Canadians want in the way of plays? Look at the amazing success of the wonderful family play "Anne of Green Gables." It has been sold out at every performance right across Canada, loved by young and old alike. It is human, family oriented, and gay. It has something of faith, and above all is not degrading to human personality. Canadians want to see more like it regularly on their government sponsored networks. Surely scores of Canadian writers produce positive plays about life, and many more would so if they knew the C.B.C. was in the market, encouraging a new and positive kind of drama in this country.

In case there are some who may think that such thinking is old fashioned, or who give the impression that what the majority of Canadians want on C.B.C. is something else, I would like to refer the house at this time to a number of newspaper editorials that deal with this very serious problem. The first quotations deal with the period three years ago, during the initial uproar over the C.B.C. and some of its rotten programming. Perhaps this was the reason for the minister's use of the term rotten, which was justified in many ways.

At that time the press of the nation was calling on the government to act on its responsibilities toward the C.B.C. Since that time we have moved through royal commissions, special committees, almost endless

[Mr. Thompson.]

debates, assertions and questions in parliament, to the point where we must now take effective action in legislation. The demands of Canadian parents and of the general public have culminated in today's debate.

May I call it ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Ricard: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the house leader what is going to be the business for tomorrow, and if possible could he also outline what he intends to take for the rest of the week?

Mr. MacEachen: Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will continue with the second reading of the broadcasting bill, and when we finish that tomorrow we will deal with the capital punishment measure.

Mr. Knowles: Don't forget the speech from the throne.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT
MOTION**

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

• (10:00 p.m.)

**HEALTH AND WELFARE—REPRESENTATIONS
RESPECTING CIGARETTE ADVERTISING
AND SMOKING EDUCATION**

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): Mr. Speaker, several days ago, on the orders of the day, I raised a question with the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. MacEachen) concerning whether he would consider promoting legislation to regulate cigarette advertising in the interests of public health. I was motivated in this regard by having read in the newspapers about the action of the United States Cancer Society in calling for a complete ban on cigarette advertising in the United States. I have raised this or a similar question 10 or 11 times previously in the house. When I raised this question several days ago I was ruled out of order by Mr. Speaker. It seemed to me that if there is anything which has to do with the national public interest it is the question of proposed legislation to deal with the control or prevention of one of the greatest contributing factors to disease in Canada.

I welcome the opportunity to say a few words this evening in respect on this question, and I should like to mention very briefly a few facts. It is a fact that although our