

On the Saturday, we held a late-night meeting on problems relating to sugar. Those problems are not completely resolved, but I have no doubt that meeting will contribute to a better solution soon. There are arguments on both sides of the border about the damage being done to the sugar industry, and even greater economic damage will be done if a solution is not reached.

We discussed other issues such as fisheries, the steel industry and the ongoing irritants in the grain trade between Canada and the United States.

In conclusion, the meeting in Huntsville was very useful. We were already familiar somewhat with the leading Democrats and, as co-chairman of the Canada-U.S. section, along with MP Joe Comuzzi, it was easy for me to pick up the phone and exchange views and find solutions. I could give examples of some mutually satisfactory agreements which we have reached on some international irritants.

Senator Grafstein also participated in those meetings and made a useful contribution in becoming acquainted with members of the United States delegation. I am sure that in the future, we can look forward to further exchanges and mutually acceptable agreements.

Hon. Jeremiah S. Grafstein: Honourable senators, Senator Olson was kind enough to mention my participation in the meeting in Huntsville. I would like to comment on one aspect not mentioned by Senator Olson.

I took a more active role in this project at the behest of Senator Olson. I found it both interesting and stimulating. I was amazed and remain so at the misconceptions that American legislators have about Canada and about our public policies. I know many Canadians have many misconceptions about the United States, but most members of this chamber have spent exhaustive time in the United States and have a good grasp of their public policies and processes and their private policies as well.

However, the reverse is not the case. Notwithstanding the fact that, as many of our prime ministers have said over the years, we have the longest undefended border, we share much in common and our trade flows are the greatest in the world.

I should like to bring this to the Senate's attention: In the time-frame of the public business which was done in Huntsville, time was afforded for some of us to spend some private time with our American colleagues. I invited a leading Republican from the House and a leading Republican from the Senate to come and spend several hours with me in Toronto. Neither had been to Toronto before. What they had heard about Toronto related to the Blue Jays. I thought this was a great opportunity to spend a few hours with them.

I began by taking them to lunch at the CN Tower, where they could get a good, physical view of the city. Then, in a car, I took them through the city for a couple of hours. I drove them through the specific areas of the city that were replete with social housing. I took them to the worst areas of the city where many of us would feel uncomfortable, in the sense that it is not up to the standard of public housing that we would prefer.

• (1200)

I kept saying, "We are now going through one of the worst areas of the city." They kept saying, "Is this the worst area of the city?" I would say, "Yes, it is." However, what they were seeing does not compare to the worst bombed-out zones in New York, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Chicago or Miami — all of which I have driven through pretty quickly by car.

Then we talked about medicare. They told me how they had looked at the medicine care system in Canada and come to the conclusion that it was not appropriate for America because it did not work. It did not work because research was not good, service was not good and because the public were not attended to well enough — the whole catalogue of ills about our medicare system.

Guess what? After they had taken a look at the hospitals, how things were located and the efficiencies of some of the services, many of them came away saying, "I did not know that. That is amazing. I am sorry I did not understand that." One senator had taken a specific interest in medicare, and found that her particular views had been somewhat altered.

I tell this as a personal anecdote because, as Senator Olson has said, we in this chamber can do a great deal, particularly in institutions such as the Canada-U.S. committee, to remove the deep and horrific misconceptions that Americans have about our public policies. In that way, perhaps, we can also reduce the misconceptions that some ultra-extremists in this country have about our public policies as well.

On motion of Senator Berntson, debate adjourned.

CIVIL JUSTICE REVIEW

INQUIRY—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. Anne C. Cools rose pursuant to notice of Thursday, June 22, 1995:

That she will call the attention of the Senate to the first report entitled *Civil Justice Review* on the joint review of the civil justice system in Ontario by the Ontario Court of Justice and the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario, co-chaired by the Honourable Mr. Justice Robert Blair and the Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Ms. Sandra Land, and in particular, Chapter 16 of the report, entitled "Focus on Family Law"; and to some recent trends in the practice of civil litigation and family law, and some recent developments in matrimonial and custodial disputes; and to the use of malice, untruth, false statements under oath, and perjury, in judicial proceedings in the practice of family law.

She said: Honourable senators, today I intend to draw the attention of the Senate to certain practices and trends in the routine proceedings of the practice of family law in Ontario. These practices have seemingly found favour among many legal practitioners, and seem to be so prevalent in civil litigation and in judicial proceedings that there is a crisis in the civil justice system of Ontario.