Another option would be that the Government could bring the House back and make tax statements at eight o'clock. In my view it does not have to cut into its time by taking an hour out of Government business at three o'clock, as is the custom. The situation has changed with television in the House. I believe the system could become much more relevant and more meaningful and that this institution would have a role to play. I make that as a suggestion to the Minister.

Mr. Simmons: Mr. Speaker, I rise on debate. May I call it one o'clock?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until 2 p.m.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed à 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[*Translation*]

FEDERAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BANK

RELOCATION OF LÉVIS, P.Q. BRANCH

Mr. Gaston Gourde (Lévis): Madam Speaker, Federal Business Development Bank authorities have shown reecently that they have much to learn about consultation in the areas they serve.

For the last several years, a branch of this bank was located in Lévis, in my constituency. Last week, this branch moved to Quebec City without properly informing the public. I was personally informed on June 2 by a senior official in Ottawa that the transfer was effective as of June 1. I find it hard to understand this so-called rationalization effort when the south shore opposite Quebec City is experiencing a major population increase and when several departments are now decentralizing their activities. If public servants now admit that it was a mistake to locate an FBDB branch on the south shore several years ago, they should also recognize that some consultation would have been helped prevent such a mistake.

I therefore ask the Federal Business Development Bank authorities and the minister responsible for this agency to reconsider their position immediately on the FBDB branch in Lévis.

Madam Speaker, I feel that two wrongs don't make a right.

[*English*]

WESTERN GRAIN TRANSPORTATION ACT

SUPPORT FOR GILSON PROPOSALS

Mr. Blaine A. Thacker (Lethbridge-Foothills): Madam Speaker, I am asking Liberal Members to help convince the Cabinet that its decision to reject both the Gilson and the Pepin proposals was terribly unwise and must be changed. If all of the money goes directly to the railways, then the grain producers are locked even more tightly under a large multinational monopoly. The whole collection system will remain locked into the ancient horse-and-wagon mode rather than a modern system which can compete against the United States, Australia, and Argentina. The livestock producers, feeders, and packing plants will be effectively blocked from obtaining access to the vast meat market in the western United States.

The Gilson proposals were a western solution to a western problem, and the Quebec caucus was simply wrong in caving in to the propaganda of the PQ Government and the UPA union. Just as we stand and defend the $2.8 billion of equalization money which flows into Quebec, as well as the separate Quebec Pension Plan, a separate French language TV system, a separate French radio system, and official bilingualism, they must stand and defend the amendment to C-155 which would give western farmers the freedom to choose.

On Friday last in my riding, at a public meeting 230 farmers voted for the choice option versus three who voted for paying 100 per cent to the railways.

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POLITICAL PARTIES

STATEMENT BY PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADERSHIP CANDIDATE ON BILINGUALISM IN MANITOBA

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Madam Speaker, the former Leader of the Conservative Party, the Right Hon. Member for Yellowhead (Mr. Clark), has again demonstrated his inability to provide leadership and to combat the right wing reactionaries of his caucus and Party. In the past he has said that he is against capital punishment but would allow it to be reintroduced in Canada. This last week he has refused to endorse the Pawley Government's courageous decision to provide bilingual services in Manitoba. The former Prime Minister is quoted as saying:

> If I had been Premier of Manitoba and faced with this threat of a Supreme Court judgment, I would have waited for it, to indicate to worried citizens that unhappily they didn't have a choice.

This indicates again his willingness to do only what is politically expedient rather than what is right and honourable. For almost 100 years the French-speaking population of Manitoba were deprived illegally of their rights. Steps to redress this wrong should be applauded and encouraged. The former Leader of the Conservative Party should recognize that it is necessary to have courage to be a leader in this nation.