

the Canada-EEC arrangement on cheese. Within the context of the MTN, Canada negotiated an arrangement with the EEC which provides improved access to the EEC market for up to 6 million pounds of Canadian cheddar, as well as an undertaking on the community's part not to undercut Canadian prices through its export subsidy scheme. It is in return for this concession that Canada undertook to maintain the global quota at 45 million pounds until 1982 and to allocate the EEC 60 per cent of this level.

The size of the cheese quota will be subject to review in the near future as part of the next dairy program at which point the government will need to be mindful of our arrangement with the European Community.

[Translation]

Madam Speaker: The questions enumerated by the parliamentary secretary have been answered. Shall the remaining questions be allowed to stand?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION

ORDER IN COUNCIL RESPECTING ESTABLISHMENT OF MINISTRY OF STATE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The House resumed from Monday, June 16, consideration of the motion of Mr. Pinard (for Mr. Trudeau):

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Edward Richard Schreyer, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada:

May It Please Your Excellency:

The House of Commons, having considered the proposed text of the order in council tabled in the House on 21 April 1980, in relation to the establishment of a Ministry of State for Social Development, prays that the making of the said order in council be approved.

● (1530)

Mr. John McDermid (Brampton-Georgetown): Madam Speaker, before I take up where I left off when I called it ten o'clock last night, I should like to draw to the attention of the House that we are debating a motion establishing the Ministry of State for Social Development, a very important ministry which has a great role to play if properly put together. I must say I am disappointed as I look across the floor to see that the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development (Mr. Chrétien), who is going to be the minister responsible for this ministry, is not in his seat, that the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin), whose department will be affected drastically by this ministry is not in her seat, that the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Mr. Axworthy) is not in his seat, nor is the Minister of State for

Social Development Ministry

Science and Technology and Minister of the Environment (Mr. Roberts). All these ministries will be affected by this ministry, yet not one of those ministers is in the House to hear this brief debate.

There is a time limit on the debate; Liberals call the business of the House, but they do not have the courtesy of being here to hear the debate. I find that shameful. I am disappointed and I am disgusted. It is the same old gang over there which does not give a hoot about what goes on in this House. I am just shocked and saddened at this type of display this afternoon.

Mr. Knowles: There is only one minister over there.

Mr. McDermid: They are probably afraid they might learn something.

When I left off last night I was discussing a number of areas of concern. I finished off the evening by pointing out that Liberals were fostering a practice of discrimination right here in the House of Commons because they allow all House of Commons personnel to take French or English language training, yet the assistants to members of Parliament are not afforded that privilege. I think that is a shame. I was wondering how a party which has not been able to implement its own policies in the past will do so in the future. I ask the minister—and I trust someone over there will pass it on to him—if he is going to have any more success at fostering or developing Canadian culture. Culture was defined by the commission on bilingualism and biculturalism as a “way of living, thinking, feeling. It is a driving force animating a significant group of individuals united by a common tongue and sharing the same customs, habits, and experiences”.

The term “multiculturalism” under Liberal implementation has become a cliché, a slogan. I do not want to be misunderstood in this regard. Multiculturalism is Canada and Canada is multiculturalism. The diversity of all of us cannot be denied. We cherish our differences. The acceptance of difference is the mark of civilized man. However, our differences, if stressed to the point where groups no longer see any similarities with each other, in themselves foster bigotry, disunity and isolation.

There are many different views of multiculturalism. Unfortunately, the most widely articulated and of great concern is that ethnic groups, as stated by Rosemary Brown to the second conference on multiculturalism, retain their identities because they are alienated, isolated, oppressed, ostracized, categorized and manipulated as a result of their particular background. The program has done very little in the area of social development, and that is what we are discussing today.

Of a budget of \$10 million, only \$633,000 was directed to immigrant aid last year. Whether we like it or not, the kindest, most humane thing we as older Canadians can do for new immigrants, new Canadians, is to help them integrate into the Canadian way of life. I am not saying assimilate; we do not have to give up our background or deny our identity, but for our own survival a certain amount of integration, whether through language instruction in either French or English,