

the Baha'is of Iran that the international community has not forgotten them. Without such leadership by the Government we are leaving the Baha'is entirely at the mercy of the fanatical Government of Iran. We are giving that Government the freedom to persecute these people even more harshly than it has in the past. International pressure has helped the Baha'is before, and we must ensure that it helps them again.

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HUMAN RIGHTS

IRAN—PERSECUTION OF BAHAI'S

Mr. John Parry (Kenora—Rainy River): Mr. Speaker, the sad state of human rights in Iran will be on the agenda of the 41st Session of the UN General Assembly. Executions, mass arrests, and torture, tacitly approved by the Supreme Court of Iran and other Government institutions, continue.

The Baha'i religious minority in Iran continues to bear the brunt of a state approved persecution campaign with the apparent goal of elimination of this religious minority. Last month Mr. Mihdi-Nizhad, Mr. Habibu'llah Muhtadi, and 16-year old Bijan Talibi were killed simply for not recanting their religious beliefs.

There is an urgent need for decisive action by the Government of Canada. It should instruct the Canadian delegation to the UN to work post-haste to ensure widespread support for the UN resolution currently being drafted on human rights in Iran. We in the NDP join with other Members in this House in asking that Canada be the main sponsor of the resolution to show our deep concern over the lack of civil rights in Iran.

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PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

CLOSURE OF RCMP POSTS IN MANITOBA

Mr. Lee Clark (Brandon—Souris): Mr. Speaker, the Manitoba Government has developed the bad habit of blaming all its troubles on the federal Government. It should look in its own backyard and start guaranteeing adequate services for people in southwest Manitoba.

Rural residents of my constituency fear for their safety because Manitoba's provincial Government has decided to cut costs by closing RCMP detachments in Deloraine and Reston. Over 1,200 people have attended protest meetings in these two communities in the last few weeks. Because of the long distances between communities, neighbouring RCMP detachments will be forced to cover a wider area. That means it could take the police up to half an hour to respond to a call.

Although the federal Government will pay about 30 per cent of the bill for RCMP services in Manitoba this year, we

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unfortunately seem to have little say on how this money is spent. When the current 10-year federal-provincial agreement on RCMP services expires on March 31, 1991, the Solicitor General (Mr. Kelleher) should ensure that the federal Government has some genuine authority over the question of how the provinces administer RCMP services in the future.

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PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

PRICE OF GENERIC DRUGS—EFFECT OF AMENDING LEGISLATION

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, now we see it. The Government is cowed, has bowed and kowtowed to the American multinationals on the drug question. We heard the response of senior citizens when the Government tried to cut back on pensions. We are going to hear from the senior citizens, the disabled, and other people across this country who believe the price of free trade is too high if we have to give up the competitive pricing system we have in the drug industry at the moment.

I want to tell you, Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Liberal Party, that we are going to be fighting this move in the House and in our constituencies. The Government is going to be made to back down on this issue in the same way it was forced to back down on the senior citizens' pension cuts. Someone has got to speak for the seniors and we are going to do it.

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CHILDREN

MEASURES TO PROTECT

Mr. Don Ravis (Saskatoon East): Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Government on a series of strong measures governing missing children and child abuse. These initiatives are good news for all Canadians. In August the missing children's registry was officially opened. That vital program enables the RCMP to work in a co-ordinated search with police forces across Canada. Having access to the computerized data base of missing children at police information centres is a further step towards a safer society, one which will protect our youth.

I also applaud my colleague, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Hnatyshyn), for introducing Bill C-15 to protect Canada's children from sexual abuse and exploitation. The Government recognizes that such protection provided by the Criminal Code will require the support of community associations that are committed to assisting with these problems.