

*Supply*

believe it is a proposal that I as the Member for Parkdale-High Park can toss out for the task force to consider.

**Mr. Bosley:** Is the Hon. Member aware that the Minister's notice of motion tabled yesterday establishing the committee, excludes all questions of fiscal incentive and financing matters from its deliberations?

• (1710)

**Mr. Flis:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware of that. As the Hon. Member knows, by unanimous consent in this House we can do whatever we have the will to do.

**Mr. Bosley:** Mr. Speaker, would the Member care to tell the House whether, as opposed to unanimous consent, if an amendment were moved to the terms of reference to include fiscal incentives and considerations by any Hon. Member of this House, no matter of what Party, he would support such an amendment to the terms of reference so that his matters may be studied, whether or not that amendment is adopted unanimously?

**Mr. Flis:** Mr. Speaker, that is a hypothetical question. I believe I would first like to see the amendment and the implications of it before I would make any decision on it.

**Mr. McLean:** This morning when the Minister was in the House, Mr. Speaker, I asked him if the question of tax incentives might be clearly in the frame of reference. At the time he was tabling background documents relating to it. He said he would take the matter under consideration. Today at lunch, as the Minister spoke to the leaders of the national voluntary coalition who are gathered here in conference, they reiterated to the Minister that they felt the task force would be seriously jeopardized in its mandate without the mandate calling for testimony in relation to tax incentives.

Will the Hon. Member join with the members of the national voluntary coalition in Canada and with other Hon. Members in the House with respect to both the question which has already been outlined relating to the definition of "charity", and the question of tax incentives, which we are pressing, and which representatives and leaders are requesting? I sensed, as the Hon. Member said, "We do not want handouts", that the question of tax incentives is consistent with what he was indicating to us in the House. Therefore, will he speak in support of these representations to the Minister?

**Mr. Flis:** Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member knows me very well. We have worked on many committees together. I always support any reasonable suggestion or recommendation. However, I was not here this morning. I was at the meeting of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence so I did not hear the debate. I did not hear what the Minister said on the national voluntary organizations. I would like to read what the Minister actually said, what the exchange was, before answering more fully.

**Mr. Fisher:** Mr. Speaker, I have just a short comment and question. Earlier, I noted the way in which our housing program and multicultural program have created a partnership between volunteers and the federal Government. The Hon. Member has hinted at the programs for seniors. I see the Minister for National Health and Welfare (Miss Bégin) in the House. I would like to tell her that the New Horizons Program extends these principles to senior citizens and gives them a chance to be partners in community projects with the federal Government. I wonder if the Hon. Member could reflect on some of the experiences in his riding.

**Mr. Flis:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I did not have time to go into it so I am happy the Hon. Member has given me some time now.

On Saturday of this last weekend I met in St. Joan of Arc Church in my riding the UMAT Katolik Indonesia, which is an Indonesian senior citizens club. There were 300 senior citizens present. One of the things they are actively pursuing is the building, together with assistance from CMHC, of a senior citizens centre. Because we have no land left to build on in Parkdale-High Park they want to build it somewhere in Mississauga.

We have other excellent examples, Mr. Speaker. We have the Copernicus Lodge in our riding. That was built, thanks to the co-operation of the federal Government, through CMHC, and the Polish community. We have two phases now. The first phase is where senior citizens can live and look after themselves. They have apartments in which they cook and look after themselves. Once they become older they can move into phase two of Copernicus Lodge where there is nursing care and all sorts of assistance for these seniors. Here again is an excellent example of what the community can do in partnership with the Government.

The Lithuanian people have built a senior citizens home right on Bloor Street in Parkdale-High Park. It was filled before it was completed, again, thanks to the assistance of the federal Government through CMHC with respect to Section 56.1. I would urge the Minister responsible for CMHC to give priority to funding for these kinds of senior citizens homes because there is an established organization there. They know what the needs are for their senior citizens. In that centre, they can hear their heritage language and see their own culture. They have a taste for different foods, and so on. However, they do not exclude other Canadians. They welcome all Canadians who want to come and live in that home. The Ukrainians have similar homes, and other groups.

Yes, in response to the Hon. Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Fisher), if anyone would like to come and see and study these excellent models, and I mean this sincerely, so that perhaps they can promote this in their ridings, we would welcome them in Parkdale-High Park. They exist because of the dedication and contributions of these voluntary ethnic culture groups working hand in hand with the federal Government. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I must say that the provincial government, which is responsible for affordable housing, is not doing much to help.