

this matter up with the commission and indicated that the man had been an instructor in French at McGill, had taught in the government's language school for one year and was the head of the French department in a United States university. The people in the Public Service Commission probably did not read his application but only his name. I suggest that if that kind of result flows from this bill we will have divisions which will cause the type of concern that some hon. members have shown.

• (5:10 p.m.)

I hope the minister responsible for the administration of the bill will use every discretion possible. I hope there will be no need for the commissioner to investigate individual problems because every time a problem is investigated, whether it is satisfactorily concluded or not, everyone in that department will know about it. In my opinion this type of concern will lead to divisions that will be very hard to heal.

Members of the House of Commons and the press should give serious consideration over the next few years to this problem. It can only be solved if the federal government will provide the educational facilities in all schools in Canada so that the next generation, although they may not avail themselves of it, will at least have the opportunity to be bilingual, something which most of us in my generation were denied.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Prior to recognizing the hon. member for Vegreville, I wish to advise the house of the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE
DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles)—Social Security—increased pensions to meet cost of living; the hon. member for Bellechasse (Mr. Lambert)—Agriculture—income of Quebec manufactured milk producers; the hon. member for Simcoe North (Mr. Rynard)—Health and Welfare—call for services of medical doctors.

Official Languages GOVERNMENT ORDERS

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

PROVISIONS RESPECTING STATUS AND USE—
APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONER, ETC.

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Trudeau for the third reading of Bill C-120, respecting the status of the official languages of Canada.

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): Mr. Speaker, in rising to participate in the debate on third and final reading of this measure, it is not my intention to add further to the bitter feelings already stirred up by its introduction. Further, it certainly is not my intention to fan the fires of racial animosity or attempt to increase the damage to national unity. Indeed, it is because this legislation does these very things that I have serious reservations about it. I believe this bill has aroused unnecessary bitterness and controversy and has seriously undermined the high degree of national unity achieved in Canada prior to its introduction. I think this bill represents a retrograde step because it will stir up more animosity than it will overcome. It will erect a series of artificial boundaries within this country when the great need is to remove barriers that already exist.

I seriously question the theory of bilingual districts incorporated in this legislation. I maintain that it will tend to segregate rather than unite, consequently doing more damage to racial relations at the community level, and it is upon relations at the community level that national unity rests.

In the past we have had our full share of ethnic, religious and social differences, but over the years these were largely overcome. By 1967, the 100th anniversary of Confederation, these differences were well on the way to being completely removed. That year, in fact, brought a tremendous upsurge of national feeling, of love for Canada, one country and one people. It was the time of real birth of a Canadian nationality. Introduction of this bill by the government and the subsequent discussion of it have plunged us back and precipitated a new wave of suspicion and distrust.

As I have said, throughout the past 100 years, certainly there have been differences among the people of this country—social differences, religious differences and linguistic differences. However, and I speak here of western Canada, at no time has there been deliberate discrimination against any minority