I want to interrupt the quotation with a comment, Mr. Speaker. The first page of the report lists the 13 members of the subcommittee, but the name of the Solicitor General does not appear there. On the next page, under "Acknowledgements" which run to roughly two pages, there is a list of 11 members of the House of Commons. His name is included in the list. The paragraph preceding the list reads as follows:

Other members of the House of Commons who served on the subcommittee from time to time but who did not participate in its deliberations and report are as follows:

I am sure it was unintentional, but the Solicitor General misled the House on October 14 when he suggested he had made some input into the report. His reply continued:

—I helped gather evidence and I worked on the preparation of that report.

The report shows that he did not. The reply goes on:

On the question of the reference, there is a tremendous volume of work for the justice committee—

We do not argue that, Mr. Speaker.

—and I would be happy to deal with questions like that when my estimates, which are now before the committee, are considered. Frankly, it would be for the committee to consider how much of their estimates time they would want to spend on that. There is other work for that committee which I think should have a higher priority.

The Solicitor General was mixed up. He stated that he had some sympathy for our concerns. He acknowledged the amount of work facing the justice committee but suggested that for that reason he should not refer this matter to another special committee. Mr. Speaker, that is why he should refer it, if for no other reason. He is acknowledging that there is no opportunity, when the estimates are before the standing committee, to ask a significant number of questions because of the shortage of time and the volume of work. At the same time, however, he refuses to refer this subject to a committee of the House of Commons.

It is incomprehensible to me that the minister should act in this way, Mr. Speaker. He has given good reason why the matter should be referred; the justice committee is overloaded with work and we do not have time to ask questions there yet at the same time the minister denies us the privilege of speaking on this very important issue.

I just want to speak for about two more minutes, Mr. Speaker, and touch on something in the report that I think is crucial. There are two recommendations which I do not think the hon. member for Burnaby mentioned. Recommendation No. 24 deals with setting up a five-man board to decide policy and recommend policy to the Solicitor General. Another recommendation deals with a comparable organization at the institutional level. If there is one thing that our present system needs, Mr. Speaker, it is some real input from the public in Canada and not the kind of phony input we are getting at present.

The prison system in Canada is the only public institution where there is no public input. Hospitals have hospital boards; schools have public boards, universities have boards and even police commissions are public bodies that interverne between the minister and the local police authorities.

I shall take time on another occasion, Mr. Speaker, to explain some of the ludicrous comments that have come from the Solicitor General, comments of which he should be ashamed. I know they are provided to him by Correctional Services Canada. Ludicrous arguments have been advanced as to why those two recommendations should not be implemented. The way they have done it is unbelieveable. In fact, by way of the grapevine, and the passage of time, I have found out why recommendation No. 62, which requested a feasibility study on the advisability of a board at one institution on an experimental basis was not implemented, as the hon. member for Scarborough West has intimated. That was a recommendation that we study the feasibility of it.

● (1650)

If the hon. member for Scarborough West is interested, he should ask the Solicitor General and/or the correctional services officials for the documentation by which they came to the decision not to accept that recommendation in terms of implementing it as an experimental model. One would be appalled, coming from the city of Toronto, as my hon. friend does, and knowing something about how the system of education works in Ontario, at the arguments advanced to dispose of that particular recommendation. It was just unbelievable.

Rather than get "het up" about this any longer, and wanting to save some time for my friend from Bow River who is concerned about this subject, I will conclude by expressing my full support for the hon. member for Burnaby. He deserves credit for again bringing this matter to the attention of the House. I hope that members on the government side, five of whom were in support of recommendation 65, and not one of whom spoke today, will also support this. When I came in at two o'clock this afternoon, the Solicitor General was in his seat. He stayed here until four o'clock. The moment this item was called, he disappeared. The hon. member for Rosemont (Mr. Lachance) was also in the chamber. He was one of the strongest proponents of this report. He has since disappeared from the chamber as well. Where are the other three members from the government side who felt so strongly about this report? When it comes to doing something about it, they are not here to present their case, whatever it may be. Maybe it has changed. In conclusion, I hope hon. members who are still here will see the wisdom of allowing this motion to pass this afternoon.

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, when a government spends several thousands of dollars, and members from all sides spend a lot of time and effort studying a problem, it is not satisfactory to simply put that book of recommendations on the shelf. This is another frustration for people across this country because it is being done far too often. Consequently, I fully support the motion of the hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson). I commend him on his excellent address, as well as the hon. member for Oxford (Mr. Halliday).

A number of items concern me because there is a medium penitentiary in the Drumheller area. I will not have enough