Senator Thériault: Then the Conservative taxpayers of the country will say, no more of that, and we will be back where we were in the 1930's under the Tories and under the real Depression.

On motion of Senator Cools, debate adjourned.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF TIMISKAMING

BILL TO CHANGE NAME—SECOND READING

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government), moved the second reading of Bill C-351, to change the name of the electoral district of Timiskaming.

He said: Honourable senators, the purpose of this bill is to change the name of the riding of Timiskaming to Timiskaming-French River.

[Translation]

Hon. L. Norbert Thériault: Can you say it in French?

Senator Lynch-Staunton: Honourable senators, I don't know whether it was named after a Mr. French or whether we could say "rivière française". I have not yet looked into the matter.

Hon. Royce Frith (Leader of the Opposition): I suppose we could say "rivière des français".

Senator Lynch-Staunton: Right now, it is Timiskaming—French River, so maybe it was a Mr. French rather than

[English]

In 1987, following redistribution, the riding's limits were changed significantly to include what is known as the Nickel Belt. This additional population is significantly different in location from the one in Timiskaming, and it was felt that the addition of the name "French River" would more fairly reflect the demographic composition of the riding.

[Translation]

Hon. Gildas L. Molgat (Deputy Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, I have just one question. If I am not mistaken, this region has a fairly high proportion of people who are French-speaking. Is there a proposal to add "rivière des français" or is this just the English version? If I am not mistaken the word "Timiskaming" comes from one of the aboriginal languages.

Senator Lynch-Staunton: In the French version, it says Timiskaming—French River, so I assume "French" indicates the name of a person, not a nationality.

Senator Hébert: We could say "Rivière French", in French.

[English]

Motion agreed to and bill read second time. [Senator Murray.]

THIRD READING

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government): Owing to the simplicity of the bill, with leave of the Senate, I move third reading now.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Is leave granted?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Hon. M. Lorne Bonnell: Honourable senators, I just want to say that I agree with the bill. The reason I agree with the bill is that a good friend of mine, John MacDougall, represents that riding in the House of Commons. It is a matter of taking more territory into his riding. He wants the name changed so that both parts of the riding are represented in the constituency name. On behalf of John MacDougall, I want to say that we are in favour of the bill. John MacDougall happens to be a Cape Bretoner.

Motion agreed to and bill read third time and passed.

PRIVATE BILL

DAI al-MUTLAQ—BILL TO INCORPORATE—SECOND READING—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. Norman K. Atkins, moved the second reading of Bill S-13, to incorporate the Dai al-Mutlaq as a corporation sole in Canada.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt this motion?

Hon. Philippe Deane Gigantès: No.

Hon. Eymard G. Corbin: Honourable senators, is the sponsor of the bill not going to give us some explanation about this group?

Senator Atkins: Honourable senators, I sense that members of this chamber are interested in an explanation of what Bill S-13 is all about.

Senator Frith: We set that up well for you didn't we.

Senator Atkins: The purpose of this bill is to grant a corporate charter to the holder of a religious office. The Dawoodi Bohra community represents a distinct denomination of Islam, to which there are over 1 million adherents in over 40 countries. The Dawoodi Bohra community is relatively new in Canada, immigration of adherents having commenced in the mid-1970s. Recently the Dawoodi Bohra community in Canada has completed the construction of a mosque and community centre in Richmond Hill, near my home in Markham. There are now over 1300 members of the community residing in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta who preserve and practice this religious belief, language and culture while integrating and assimilating with the greater multicultural fabric of Canada.