

Urban Affairs

Rochdale College mortgage loan was made. However, he was there when the loan to Pestalozzi College in Ottawa was made, and I understand that there is already trouble there.

I suggest to the minister that if he has not done so already, he should immediately get together with his deputy minister and take a close look at the management of Pestalozzi College, otherwise he will face the same problems of mismanagement, the decay of buildings and financial problems which have been experienced at Rochdale in Toronto. Then I hope that he will use his coordinating influence with other departments, such as the Department of the Secretary of State, the Department of National Health and Welfare and the citizenship department when it comes to making grants to projects and organizations across the country. I suggest that more care and discrimination is needed in selection and inspection before money is handed out. I would recommend to the minister that his rule be that the taxpayers' money should not be used to teach young people to hurt themselves or even to aid and abet in this.

Mr. Alexander: How about Rochdale?

Mr. Ryan: The experiment has taken a long time. It has become a great financial problem. I had hoped that in some form or another it might recover and prove eventually to be a successful experiment. I must now admit that I have very dim hope and expectation of that, although I do not think it is the fault of the present president of Rochdale College but, rather, it is the fault of those who went before him. I think the minister should be very charitable with regard to the fraternity which occupies one floor of that college. So far as I know, that fraternity has an excellent record. They put a lot of money into the venture. If the minister can see some way of saving that fraternity, I do not think the public would be disappointed. But so far as putting in \$28,000 a month more of taxpayers' money to support Rochdale College is concerned, I think the college has just about "had it".

Another project which I hope the minister will look into and assess is the one at 19 Huron Street, Toronto, known as The Hall which was started by a group known as Grass Roots. Apparently, they work in close association with CARM, which is short for Committee for Aid to Refugees from Militarism. The Secretary of State recently allowed a grant of almost \$7,500 to The Hall, for switchboards. It is supposed to help Toronto residents in finding a place to sleep, eat, and so on. However, as the World Council of Churches appears to be losing interest in supporting CARM, CARM seems to be working its way out through the Grass Roots and The Hall. So far as I can gather, the main beneficiaries of the \$7,500 grant are the draft-dodgers and deserters from the U.S.A. Much as I sympathize with fellows who cannot find a place to sleep or eat there, I am not at all convinced that the people of Canada want the taxpayers' money to go into supporting this particular venture.

• (8:50 p.m.)

The Hall passes itself off as being a community centre for the Chinese around Huron Street, which is the Chi-

[Mr. Ryan.]

nese dormitory. I talked to the Chinese and they say they want no part of it, that it is not serving them in any way, shape or form. Therefore, I ask the minister to please look over that situation and if he has any influence on the Secretary of State will he please endeavour to persuade him not to continue so blithely and unconcernedly giving grants to projects which are not altogether in the interests of the country and certainly are not projects that have the complete confidence of the people.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the new minister designate and wish him—

Mr. Alexander: God speed!

Mr. Ryan: Not particularly God speed—I would give him a little time; but I wish him success in what I am sure will prove to be a very difficult job.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I hope I will not be condemned for having political schizophrenia if I both congratulate and criticize the intended secretary of state for urban affairs. I recall the time when the Minister without Portfolio in charge of housing started off his cabinet career being associated with Indian Affairs. He did an excellent job; in fact, he did such a constructive job that they transferred him to another portfolio. In fairness I must say he has done a good job as Minister without Portfolio in charge of housing. But, Mr. Speaker, that is where the congratulations end because I thought his speech tonight was composed of too many words and not enough ideas, too many platitudes and not enough principles.

When I read the Order in Council to set up a ministry of state for urban affairs I could not help agreeing with the recital which indicated that increasing urbanization profoundly affects the well-being of Canadians and the future of Canadian society as a whole, more particularly in the fields of housing, transportation, environment, employment, life style and other fields. Because of this it is necessary to have national policies comprehensive in nature and requiring the full co-operation of the provinces and municipalities.

On one page of the Order in Council the powers of the ministry of state for urban affairs are set forth. It is indicated that the duties of the minister are "to initiate proposals for new policies, projects and activities; evaluate proposals for new policies...participate in projects...that may have an influence on urbanization," and to make recommendations and have consultations with other authorities, to delve deeply into research and to co-operate with the different departments and agencies of the government of Canada and with other governments to develop a real urbanization policy.

I would have preferred it to have been more specific with regard to the phrase "urban affairs." I would have liked it to include the word "housing," because I think housing is one of the foremost problems in our country. I am pleased that the minister has openly declared that urban affairs includes housing, transportation, pollution and many of the other problems that are connected with urban life. If he later says that he has not jurisdiction in