Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Speaker: I believe there is agreement to allow the hon. member to conclude his remarks within approximately five minutes.

Mr. Badanai: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and hon. members. The John Howard and Elizabeth Fry Societies are doing a tremendous job with limited and inadequate financial resources. Here I appeal to the Solicitor General to be more generous in granting financial assistance to these societies which are composed of men and women dedicated to the rehabilitation of the unfortunate young and old who happen to fall into the channels of crime.

To give an example, the executive secretary of the John Howard Society of Thunder Bay, who visits the Manitoba penitentiary 12 times a year to see the inmates from Ontario and who also looks after the parolees from the province of Ontario, receives only $1,500 a year toward an operating budget of $21,000. The balance has to be obtained from the Thunder Bay United Appeal and membership subscriptions. This is always a haphazard dependence because in some years the United Appeal fails to reach its objective, and membership decreases.

In 1969 the society looked after 14 parolees. It could handle more if it had more money. Therefore, I suggest that a revision of the relationship between the federal government and the John Howard Society be carried out with the object of increasing the latter's effectiveness by greater financial support.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, on a question of order, before we move on to the next item of business perhaps I might confirm that it would be the intention tomorrow to call this measure after the two which have been announced.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS—STEPHENVILLE, NFLD—CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FACILITIES

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I should first like to apologize to the Minister of Public Works (Mr. Laing) for having been brought back at this late hour, especially since I did not have an opportunity last year to thank him for announcing to me that my district was to have a $2½ million harbour development. This was much to the consternation of another minister who had wanted to make the announcement first. However, I was able to beat him to the punch.

I should like to deal with a question in respect of which I have difficulty in obtaining answers. Ordinarily I like to deal with members of the staff rather than bother the minister and take up the time of the House. Last year a meeting was held at the town of Stephenville among members of the town council, the chambers of commerce and all interested leaders of the surrounding communities to discuss the need for expanded postal facilities due to the projected expansion of the town by way of potential industry and the resultant need of expanded postal communication.

It was agreed by the district postal supervisor, who attended the meeting along with myself, that in view of the potential growth of the area a study should be made of the expanded projected growth commensurate with the planned increase in population due to growth of planned industry. Furthermore, it was agreed that the existing post office was located at a dangerous intersection where normal access was difficult due to the danger of being in a school area which endangered this access, and in turn endangered the safety of hundreds of children.

After serious consideration it was agreed after further study that to facilitate economy of purpose, consideration should be given to the establishment of a federal building not only to house the post office but other federal agencies which the government was leasing, which tended to destroy centralization of purpose to facilitate proper administration.

My grievance is not with the action of government but is only raised to indicate my inability to follow progress with regard to the eventual decision to provide the facility. I cannot understand why I cannot get a definite, straightforward answer with regard to progress, as a Member of Parliament who is only trying to obtain the information asked for by the people whom I represent. I would not mind if I were told to mind my own business or, "We don't tell you anything." But to be kept waiting and being offered procrastinating excuses, that I will have the answer

[Mr. Speaker.]