

nile court had to close entirely; there was no outward manifestation of juvenile delinquency. After having a record of being the worst community in Canada, in a few weeks, it became one of the best.

The hon. member for Essex (Mr. Whelan) is to be congratulated for taking up the ball from where it was dropped. Discussion on this bill opens up a whole field of interest. Some people, and perhaps they are dreamers, say there is no such thing as a bad boy, but there certainly is such a thing as a bad boy if you do not give him something to do. But given a proper outlet for their over-abundant energies, very few young people will go wrong. I think this is the point the hon. member is trying to make, and I support it.

In our day young people were called bad or difficult; they were not called juvenile delinquents. Society is vitally interested in helping these young people, but methods have changed over the years. The wood shed and the strap were used in my schooldays. Now we use a lot of fancy psychology. Perhaps we need a happy medium between the two. When you give a boy proper leadership and there is family teamwork, juvenile delinquency becomes a minimal problem.

The community of Sherwood Park, a satellite town near Edmonton, Alberta, is so well organized that I believe all girls and boys of school age have an opportunity to participate in Little League baseball. It also provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to get out, to get a little fresh air and keep in contact with their own and other children in the community, all of which makes the family work together and play together. I do not think it is necessary to add that Sherwood Park is not a nest of juvenile delinquents.

The service clubs of Canada have always been helpful with regard to the young. The Optimists' clubs across Canada have supported the Air Cadets, a natural place to which young people graduate from Little League baseball. At a later age our magnificent Air Force caters to these young people who, when mature, may have a role in defending Canadian skies.

This bill also brings to mind the need for a well-organized, national physical fitness program. I am not alarmed about setting aside a week for Little League baseball because I am quite sure in that week, basketball, hockey, skiing, and so forth, would also receive more attention and promotion. Perhaps a better name could be found for it. Youth Appreciation Week is recognized in many areas, and

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perhaps Little League Week is an offshoot of that. I give my support to this type of activity.

● (4:30 p.m.)

I feel that if the CYC had been involved in this type of thing, its reputation might have been saved and the thousands of dollars of taxpayers' money used to much greater advantage. I hope that even at this late stage the CYC might be revamped, with a little encouragement and the proper terms of reference. Most of its members, if not all, joined with the intention of carrying out projects like this. If we have a plan for them, a little supervision and well-defined terms of reference, the CYC may yet have a fully up-to-date physical fitness program for the country.

Mr. Speaker, no doubt other members wish to speak on this subject. I hope we will send the bill to committee.

Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Calgary South): Mr. Speaker, my intervention in the debate on this very interesting bill will be brief indeed—and I am as gratified as hon. members opposite at that. However, I think the hon. member for Essex (Mr. Whelan), coming from a somewhat deprived area of Canada where, unfortunately, the Canadian Radio-Television Commission is unable to intercept the signals from the five Detroit television stations across the river, may have a somewhat distorted view of what is good for Canada. I make this point before the bill goes to committee because I note the first two words of paragraph 2 of the bill are "throughout Canada". I am not sure it is a good thing for the fabric of Canadian culture that we observe and honour an institution that has been enshrined by legislative action of the United States Congress as the national sport of the United States of America.

Mr. Baldwin: Wait until they hear about this in Calgary.

Mr. Mahoney: I wonder if we would not be wiser, Mr. Speaker, to limit the geographic purview of this bill to a long baldhead, or perhaps a sinister-free, distance from the United States border. Seriously, I join other members in endorsing this bill. I hope it will present a more realistic approach to the fact of the continental entity which we enjoy, rather than some of the things which we observed and heard in areas of entertainment in the last few weeks.