

The Constitution

side-tracked by too many other issues such as the social charter.

Toward the end of the two-hour session, a student by the name of Matt Brown offered a very interesting perspective on the national dilemma which we have here. I am quoting from his comments. He said: "Canada did not come together because it wanted to but because it needed to. The provinces came together to protect themselves from the states. If we keep bickering we will be all by ourselves again".

There were several others, including Peter Hayes, a high school student and president of the student council at the Huron Park Secondary School in Woodstock, who felt that too many minority groups were hoping to have their views carry the day, as it were, and suggested that those who yell the most sometimes are not the ones who come out to vote when the time comes for elections.

In summary, I say that there was an over-all plea for more awareness and a better understanding among all of us that was voiced at this meeting we had in Woodstock, something that I think we all need to heed.

We are having another meeting later this week in the town of Tillsonburg which will be the same. I will be

interested to report to the committee following that meeting.

Just in conclusion may I say that I cannot sum up what happened at this meeting we had in my constituency of Oxford any better than was done by Cheryl Clark-Cowan from Woodstock who wrote in the *Norwich Gazette*, one of the weekly newspapers in the constituency. I am quoting her comments when she said:

The end of the meeting brought a group hug of sorts from the capacity crowd. For as one speaker noted, although nothing concrete was accomplished from the two-hour session, it did bring those Canadians present a little bit closer together.

If there was one thing these meetings across the country have done, it is to bring Canadians closer together, help them to understand and be aware of other people's feelings. Hopefully that will lead to an understanding that will translate into the proposals that will be emanating from the government in the near future as far as our future Constitution is concerned.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): There being no further members rising for debate, pursuant to order made Friday, February 14, 1992, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

The House adjourned at 8.48 p.m.