paraging the fine work of police forces such as the RCMP; nevertheless, I deplore the investigative techniques employed by law enforcement officers who, having apprehended a young person defined as a juvenile under the act, embark upon a course of investigation in the absence of a parent.

Sometimes investigating officers will wait until after such an interrogation has taken place before notifying the parent or guardian of the young person's apprehension. Again, particularly in the case of a first offender, the young person is confronted with a foreign atmosphere in the police station. He is under a cloud of fear, perhaps under a misconception that he is required by law to answer questions. He is not informed whether or not at this stage he is entitled to counsel. He is not told his parents are being notified.

I am not suggesting this is done in every instance, but these abuses have occurred on too many occasions. I have even had experience of one case where four young people were apprehended on a narcotics charge. Among them were persons who could be defined as juveniles under this proposed legislation and under existing legislation. They were stripped to the skin and searched bodily, and their clothing was also seached, before their parents were notified. The Solicitor General and the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) could help to avoid this kind of thing happening in the future by issuing specific instructions. I remind hon. members in this connection that the Solicitor General is specifically responsible for the RCMP and that the Minister of Justice is the Attorney General for both the northern territories. A specific instruction is all that would be required to prevent this kind of abuse in the future.

My last observation on the bill at this stage concerns the choice of judicial officers to deal with youthful offences. We all know that the federal government appoints judges by and large on the basis of whether the potential appointee has been a faithful adherent of the political party which finds itself in power and makes the appointment. This is deplorable enough in relation to the appointment of superior court judges, but I certainly do not believe this course should be followed in the appointment of judiciary officials charged with responsibility for dealing with youthful offenders. He or she must bring something more to their work than legal training.

What is required above everything is an understanding of youth and the problems of youth. There is enough of a chasm between the adult establishment and the youth of our country without widening it still further by placing political appointees, who might otherwise not be well-qualified for this particular task, on the judicial bench to deal with young offenders, often without the slightest idea of the problems of youth and young persons generally. This system must cease if any headway is to be made even with respect to the technical administration of Bill C-192.

I urge the Solicitor General to take up with his officials the observations I have made concerning my constituency, in the hope that the difficulties which now exist in the Yukon may be alleviated. One word, before I take my seat, with respect to the operation of the detention home for young offenders in the Yukon. I must toss a bouquet out, because here is a young institution which in the course of its operation has accomplished a great deal in reducing the incidence of crime by youthful offenders in my constituency. Its stated objective, and one I believe it follows, is that the sooner young offenders can be sent out of the institution and back into their homes, the better. The institution has a staff of very fine persons employed at Wolf Creek and they are doing excellent work.

[*Translation*]

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, those who are in the best position to express objective remarks on a bill such as the one before us, are obviously those who are daily directly involved in the specific problems of young people.

Therefore, I think that the brief sent to us by the authorities of Boscoville makes clear, in a very satisfactory manner, what should be changed in this legislation in order to make it acceptable.

• (5:00 p.m.)

In his letter dated January 20, 1971, the director of Boscoville, Mr. Gilles Gendreau, emphasized, among other things the following, and I quote:

Boscoville considers that twenty years of rehabilitation work with young offenders allows it, when this legislation is being considered, to make some comments so that the law-makers may be still better informed before the adoption and the implementation of the Young Offenders Act.

We hope that this information will throw more light on the matter and we wish to assure you that our main concern is to help as much as possible the young misfits.

Of course, there is not one member in this House who would suggest that there is any partisanship there. Therefore, I think it is my duty to bring up, as faithfully as possible the amendments proposed and the objective criticism advanced by Boscoville and, to do so, Mr. Speaker, may I be allowed to quote large extracts from the brief itself.

On the whole, Boscoville recognizes that this bill is showing real progress in its more constructive approach towards young offenders.

I said about the same thing during the speech I delivered on the first amendment to this bill.

The spirit of our remarks would like to express, however, extremely serious concern with regard to the rehabilitation philosophy and the practical measures in general relating to such a policy.

That, Mr. Speaker, is the problem which became obvious to those who are daily and directly involved in juvenile delinquency.

The brief deals with the following matters:

1. Remarks concerning rehabilitation per se.
2. Age.
3. Education and training.
4. Accurate use of terms.

Remarks related to a concept of rehabilitation considered as a logical whole.

On page 27, section 30(4): Trial after rehabilitation process:

Boscoville considers it incompatible with a rehabilitation process to demand that a juvenile who has gone through a rehabili-