

been able to tell me that the government is studying the representations. I am using this occasion to emphasize the urgency of the whole question of the foreign ownership of Canadian publishing houses because in the April 3 issue of the *Ottawa Citizen* there is an article headed "McClelland dickering with U.S. firms" in which the following statements are made:

Ardent Canadian nationalist Jack McClelland is negotiating with Americans as well as Canadians to buy his book publishing firm.

Six weeks after he announced he would sell McClelland and Stewart, Limited to American interests only as "an absolute, last ditch stand," the co-chairman of the Committee for an Independent Canada said he was considering offers from the U.S. following a recent trip to New York.

"It is purely a protective measure on my part", he added quickly in an interview Thursday. "I've had some proposals from Canadians too".

Mr. McClelland went on to say:

He has made repeated requests to the federal and provincial governments for long-term, low-interest capital but apparently has been turned down. Nor has he been able to obtain extensions of earlier loans.

It is obvious that Mr. McClelland wants to leave his firm in Canadian hands but is being forced into a situation, due to inaction on the part of both the government of Canada and the government of Ontario, where he must consider U.S. offers. There is, therefore, considerable urgency involved in this whole question and a statement of government policy is required immediately if we are to prevent McClelland and Stewart from going the same route as Ryerson Press and W. A. J. Gage. I have emphasized the need for action on the part of the government. This position is reinforced by the representations made to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs (Mr. Basford) in a brief entitled, "The Textbook Racket," by Art Smolensky, a senator of the University of British Columbia, and Rob McDiarmid, vice-president elect of the Alma Mater Society of the University of British Columbia. The specific complaints of the authors of this memoir are—I quote from the memoir—as follows:

• (10:10 p.m.)

Textbooks are too expensive relative to (the student's) ability to pay for them.

In their documentation of that case they provide, with respect to English language textbooks, information relevant to the case that I am arguing this evening. They point out that 80 per cent of all library and 92 per cent of all university bookstore purchases are books not published in Canada; that only 17 per cent of all post-secondary textbook sales are from domestic publishers, roughly half of this number being published on the basis of adapted rights, and therefore less than 10 per cent of all university texts are of Canadian origin. They also quote figures from Ernst—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member's time has expired.

**Mr. James Hugh Faulkner (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for

#### *Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

Selkirk (Mr. Rowland) said in his intervention tonight that the purpose of raising this question was to draw the attention of the House to the urgency of maintaining a viable Canadian publishing industry. I would simply reiterate what has been stated by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Mr. Pepin) and the Secretary of State (Mr. Pelletier), that this is an urgency of which we are all aware.

In the case of the pending sale of McClelland and Stewart I would like to set forth the following facts. Since the sale of McClelland and Stewart was first mooted by Mr. McClelland, officials of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce have been in constant touch with Mr. McClelland. At the beginning of March the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce met with Mr. McClelland, at which time Mr. McClelland assured him that although he was going to give U.S. companies the opportunity "to look him over" it was not his intention to sell to non-Canadian interests if at all possible. The government is sure Mr. McClelland would not take any precipitate action which would result in McClelland and Stewart passing into foreign control before consulting further with the Canadian government and the government of Ontario.

Mr. McClelland is continuing to negotiate with private Canadian commercial interests concerning the future of McClelland and Stewart, as well as with federal, provincial and private financial institutions. Of course, it would not be appropriate to comment on these discussions now. As the hon. member has pointed out, there have been a number of studies conducted and one important conference held on the state of the publishing industry. The information which we have now is far more complete than it was previously and, as I said at the beginning of my remarks, there is a very real sense of the urgency of the matter both on that side of the House and on this side. It is recognized that if publishing is to play its role it must be an economically viable industry, and all the departments concerned are continuing on an urgent basis to keep all possible options open to the government.

#### CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION—DENIAL OF CANADIAN TELEVISION PROGRAMS TO WINDSOR STATION

**Mr. Mark MacGuigan (Windsor-Walkerville):** Mr. Speaker, the facts on which this question is based are as follows: in the first week of March, station CKLW-TV in Windsor was forced to withdraw the program "Rainbow Country" after 22 of 26 episodes had been shown because the CBC, which was the Canadian distributor and the co-producer, had entered into an agreement with American purchasers which banned this series from being shown in Windsor to enable it to be shown by Detroit stations for a higher price. That this is no random example of such a happening is indicated by the fact that earlier in the viewing season the program "Audubon Theatre" had also to be withdrawn after four episodes had been shown, and for the same reason.

There are many amusing aspects of this problem. One is that after entering into a form of agreement not to