

Canadian Culture

and the things that are good. I hope we can bring more of that spirit into our mosaic of cultures in this country.

We can learn, as I say, from Canadians of Chinese origin. I like their long memories. I have never known a Canadian of Chinese origin to forget a good turn that was done for him or for his family. Years afterward they will continue to express thanks and make gifts to the person who brought about something that pleased them. Then there is their public spirit, their desire to contribute to a greater Canada. Again, this is an attribute we might all try to emulate.

I think of people of Chinese origin in Edmonton, men like Victor Mah and Ned Lee and Tom Mack, who came over and made good by dint of hard work and who, today, are contributing to the sports world, to the food servicing world, and to the worlds of arts, medicine, and science. I remember going to the first Grey Cup game which was played in Vancouver. The Edmonton Eskimos were playing the Montreal Alouettes. I sat behind a large group of Canadians of Chinese origin. There was a tremendous finale to that game when Normie Kwong by dint of his boxcar strength pushed himself across the line and won the game for Edmonton. The crowd went wild. There was a Canadian of Chinese origin in front of me. If he was a year old, he was 90, and he jumped up and down and said, "He my uncle! He my uncle!" He wanted to establish a relationship with Normie Kwong. Afterward I saw boys of all ancestry stroking Normie Kwong's jacket. They had respect for this young man who had done so much in the world of sport.

I remember Normie Kwong saying to me once when I was in Highways in Alberta, "Would you please get that highway to Calgary fixed up and paved because I have to get down there to clean your shirts?" He operated a laundry there, and he had a tremendous sense of humour.

My thought in supporting this motion is that some of these attributes will, as time goes on, play an important part in the Canadian mosaic—hard work, respect, long memories. And if the dragon depicts all those things let us make sure that the dragon, or whatever the Canadians of Chinese origin wish, becomes part of our great Canadian mosaic.

Some hon. Members: Question!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Motion (Mr. Waddell) agreed to.

Some hon. Members: Six o'clock!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Is it agreed that we call it six o'clock?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Ethier): Therefore the hour provided for the consideration of private members' business is expired. I do now leave the chair until 8 p.m.

At 5.46 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 8 p.m.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**DECREE RESPECTING ESTABLISHMENT OF DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Pinard (for Mr. Trudeau):

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General of Canada:

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Edward Richard Schreyer, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada:

May It Please Your Excellency:

The House of Commons, having considered the proposed text of the order in council tabled in the House on 21 April 1980, in relation to the establishment of a Ministry of State for Social Development, prays that the making of the said order in council be approved.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): When the debate on item No. 1 under government business was interrupted at five o'clock this afternoon, the hon. member for Northumberland-Miramichi (Mr. Dionne) had the floor. That hon. member is not present; therefore, we will move on to the next hon. member who seeks the floor.

Hon. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is a very important debate and that it deserves far more attention than it received from the minister who is the sponsor of this resolution today. It might be well to refer to the order in council, which really is the heart and soul of the resolution which is now before the House and which, in fact, sets out the terms of reference for the new ministry of state for social development. If we read the terms in the order in council, we find that the new minister, and I quote:

(a) —shall advise on the allocation of financial, personnel and other resources to federal programs that provide support to the welfare of the individual and social development in Canada;

(b) he shall develop approaches to improve and to integrate the delivery of social benefits to Canadians;

(c) he shall lead and co-ordinate the efforts of the Government of Canada to establish and to clarify co-operative relationships with the provinces and with public and private organizations, to foster conditions that allow and assist the development of the individual, the family and the community; and

(d) in respect of research and policy development he may,

(i) initiate and co-ordinate research and policy studies,

(ii) initiate proposals for new policies, programs and activities, and

(iii) evaluate existing and proposed policies, programs and activities to ensure their consistency with federal social development policies and recommend changes therein.

The terms set out in (c) are of crucial importance.

This is more than just another ministry. This is much more than another bureaucracy we are putting together today. I was surprised to hear my good friend, the esteemed and hon.