

ing itself in Canada. the company involved is Houghton-Mifflin, one of the larger U.S. publishers.

"We wish to see this company prevented from setting up here and would ask that you and your officials intervene directly. Already the strength of the subsidiary companies, largely on the basis of their imported titles, is far greater than that of domestic firms. If your objective of seeing that the majority of the industry becomes Canadian-owned and controlled is ever to be achieved then the entry of any new subsidiary firms must be prevented."

It is a well known fact that the Canadian book publishing industry is on the verge of collapse. Increasing cost of fine paper are hastening that process; the locating of yet another foreign publishing house in Canada may well further accelerate the process of collapse.

We are acting on football. We have acted in respect of Canadian ownership and content in the electronic media. We have legislation which attempts to support the growth of Canadian periodicals. Why not the book publishing industry? The Independent Publishers Association suggests as immediate measures that, and I quote:

No further takeovers of existing (Canadian) companies should be allowed, and existing branch plants should be prevented from expanding by adding new agency lines.

They further recommend to the minister in their letter of March 21:

As part of a policy for the development of a domestic publishing capacity the entry of new subsidiaries in the future should be prevented.

These measures are admittedly negative in character, but they are designed to meet a crisis. If I had time, I would add to them the five suggestions which I made in a speech reported in *Hansard* for February 16, 1971. However, time does not permit. I would ask the government at this point what action it intends to take and when it intends to take it.

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I very much share the hon. member's interest about this particular issue. I obviously share his confessed concern for the viability of the Canadian publishing industry. He referred to the speech I made to the Canadian Book Publishers Association in January where I said at that time on behalf of the government that a major segment of the publishing industry in Canada should be Canadian-owned. I think the arguments are clear and are shared by members of this party and of the hon. member's party.

#### *Adjournment Debate*

I also pointed out to him in response to his question that up to this point the measures we adopted were measures of positive support to Canadian-owned publishers and that this was one means of ensuring a viable Canadian publishing industry.

As far as the particular issue of Houghton-Mifflin is concerned, I have received one brief, on April 7 I think it was, from the Canadian Book Publishers Association and I received another brief on April 22 from the Independent Publishers Association. Both expressed the same concern about the implications of the expansion into Canada of Houghton-Mifflin.

Since receiving these briefs, I have been in touch with the Ontario government and it is my hope that we will be able to explore this question jointly and co-operatively. The discussions on the question and its implications will be continuing.

The Canadian Book Publishers Association specifically recommends that a screening agency be established to review the possible establishment in Canada of new foreign-based publishing houses during what has been described as this delicate period. This possibility is receiving serious consideration in my department.

Traditionally, the interests of such screening or review agencies have been exclusively directed to economic and business oriented questions. It is my view that this should be expanded to comprehend cultural interests as well.

#### POST OFFICE—PROPORTION OF EMPLOYEES WORKING ON MECHANICAL SORTING DEVICES RECRUITED FROM WITHIN SERVICE

**Mr. Charles E. Haliburton (South Western Nova):** Mr. Speaker, it had been my intention to raise certain matters which are of concern to me with regard to the Post Office Department this evening. However, in view of representations which have been made to me by the minister with regard to the nature of progress in the postal strike itself, I have agreed not to raise those matters which I had intended to raise this evening.

I wish to ask the Chair for assistance in this regard, possibly to permit me to raise the same subject at a later date when negotiations will not be at such a delicate stage.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member's request, of course, will be granted. His position on the list will not be prejudiced by his forbearance this evening.

Motion agreed to and the House adjourned at 10.10 p.m.