

Urban Affairs

time that the government must have patience and understanding with young people, it is now. If we evict these people onto the streets of Toronto, we are asking for serious trouble. I admire the minister for his patience, and the president of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation for sitting down with them and attempting to work out a plan whereby they can remain and fulfil their rightful place in society in this college.

It does no good to criticize young people when they are attempting to live in their own life style. I noticed that the hon. member for Edmonton Centre (Mr. Paproski) is shaking his head and shrugging his shoulders, wondering what is next. I am sure that when his young people grow up he will appreciate the problems of youth and the problems they have when they leave high school or university and cannot find employment.

Mr. Paproski: They won't live in a communal flophouse.

Mr. Gilbert: It will require all his patience and understanding to cope with the youth. I can see that I got a rise out of the hon. member for Edmonton Centre.

In the past, we have had financiers, developers, real estate firms and others participate in urban affairs, especially housing. Surely it is time that other citizens in the community participated in housing. I was very proud when I read a speech made by the minister on April 21, 1970, in which he said:

I am convinced that giving some tenants some voice in the administration of their project is a matter of social justice and would help to encourage a new and healthier outlook all around and remove a major cause of many of the difficulties we have experienced to this time.

I agree with the minister. I hope that in urban affairs programs he encourages citizen participation in not only public housing but in all forms of housing throughout the community. We should have landlord courts across the country in much the same way that we have family courts. These could take care of abuses that prevail between landlords and tenants. We should have men in these courts that are able to mediate and adjudicate these types of problems. I think this would lessen many of the landlord and tenant problems. I would also like to see the minister bring forth new ideas with regard to citizen participation on a wider scale than just public housing.

It has been brought to my attention that in the past there have been three main components missing with regard to public housing. These are recreational facilities, social services and day care centres. If we are going to have adequate public housing, we need these three components. Last Friday the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mrs. MacInnis) directed a question to the minister with regard to day care centres operating separate and apart from public housing. His answer was slightly encouraging; he indicated it may require a legislative change.

Last week there was a conference in Ottawa with regard to day care centres taking care of the needs of young people, especially working parents throughout the city. One of the things to which they look forward are day care centres. I hope the minister will make it a first

[Mr. Gilbert.]

principle in public housing to include the components of recreational facilities, social services and day care centres, and I hope he will not dilly-dally in this regard.

I have given a broad blueprint for all Canadians to live the good life. I hope the minister will have the courage, initiative and strength to implement these proposals so that housing will be a matter of right for all Canadians no matter whether they can afford it.

[Translation]

Mr. Léonel Beaudoin (Richmond): Mr. Speaker, in the few minutes I have left, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister without Portfolio upon his nomination as Minister of State for Urban Affairs. I do not think his task will be easy as we were told earlier that his department will have to co-ordinate federal, provincial and municipal policies.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe the creation of a ministry of state for urban affairs will do much to solve problems of control over rebuilding to eliminate the slums that have for too long plagued our cities, nor to fight pollution efficiently.

The new body will rather complicate things even more by adding to the number of public servants. Whether it is called ministry for urban affairs or anything else, it is another federal intervention in areas under the jurisdiction of provinces in view of the authority they now have over municipalities. We are all aware of the problem of municipalities: they lack money and must go around in circles. They must even defer projects already started because they have to pay excessive interests on loans. They must often wait two, three or four years before the provincial government does anything and, with a federal intervention, they will no doubt have to wait five or six years.

Mr. Speaker, we know how slowly projects are developed. With one government, the start of a project is not too bad. If two governments are involved, it is much slower, but if three are in it, one waits indefinitely for results. Every day, we see departments of the same government show a lack of coordination in their efforts to achieve a project that they have been developing for the past two, three, four or five years.

Before those projects materialize, disputes crop up between the departments because of conflicts between two ministers or between civil servants. In the meantime, the Canadian ratepayer waits for the results.

In closing, I should like to echo the words of the member for Trinity (Mr. Hellyer), as published in the *Toronto Telegram* for October 17, 1970. I quote:

We all know, needless to say, the universal law of bureaucracy: the civil servants multiply arithmetically, while the rules multiply geometrically, but the results do not multiply at all.

The more officialdom settles in, the more things lag and the harder the task becomes. But the Canadian taxpayer keeps on paying, and waiting.

In closing, I wish good luck to the new minister.